

May 18



# The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and, by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos*.

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VOL. VII. No. 318.]

PRICE { UNSTAMPED. FIVEPENCE.  
Stamped. Sixpence.

## Review of the Week.

ENGLAND has been at sea this week. Not figuratively, this time, in the Crimean Commission sense: although the recital of the sufferings and misadventures of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and of the faithful and much-enduring Commons might be fitly described by that lively metaphor. But on Wednesday England took to the sea as to her native element, and, let us hope, caught strength from the maternal wave, like Antaeus from the touch of earth. The truth is, our island race is a race of sailors at heart. Were we Pagans we should pay the highest honours to the sea deities, and our metropolitan cathedral would be the Temple of NEPTUNE. Not being Pagans, we pay sacrifices occasionally to the majestic god, but we love him not the less in his terrors and his smiles as our national protector and avenger. Just as the Frenchman is a born soldier, your Englishman is a born sailor; our Gallic friend, for all his brasswork and drums, looks at best a Surrey-side theatrical tar. We all love "the service" too, and naval estimates, prepared by the most lavish, or the most incapable Board of Admiralty, excite no jealousy even in Marylebone, no grudging even in Lambeth. An army, a standing army (we do not say a British army), may become a royal plaything, an aristocratic toy, a satellite of unrighteous authority, a menial to the insolence of office; but in our wooden walls there is neither faction nor servility, nor corrupt ambition, but a steadfast love of country, a loyalty without alloy, a pure devotion.

Perhaps the Review on Wednesday lacked something of that stirring interest which belonged to the armament of three years ago, when war was looming, and we were collecting ourselves for a gigantic contest. But in magnificent array the present Review of '56 was almost as superior to that of '53 as the défilé of General COOPER'S army the other day may have been to an ordinary field-day in Hyde Park. In August, '53, we were rejoicing in the march of our screw Leviathans, no visible aid propelling; but not only have we launched double the number of that fleet since then, but we have built and equipped for instant service, a swarm of gunboats, without which the strength of the line Leviathans is a *brutum fulmen*, except for the purpose of blockade. Those who were at Spithead this week must have been more struck by the

wicked gallop of those gunboats than even by the superb procession of the line-of-battle-ships; in those moving towers was the image of supremacy, but in these sea-hornets is the sting of war.

We cannot find it in our hearts to echo the snarl of those pure Tory journalists who affect a lofty contempt for the gratification of a "sight-seeing rabble." We do not write in the service of a faction, and we are free to feel and express the simple pride of Englishmen (a pride in which there need be no bluster and no bloodthirstiness) when we say that the spectacle at Spithead was worth a pilgrimage to see, and a lifetime to remember. It is well that our allies and our enemies should know how the Treaty finds us armed. It is well that we should take stock, as the *Times* has well said, of our national resources in the face of a Continent only half at peace. It is well that for one day we should forget our party feuds and political denominations, to remember only that we have one country, and one flag. The Review was, generally speaking, a decided success. The day, like all the Queen's days, was sunny and genial, with a light breeze to gladden the waters and to blow the bunting clear. The stately line of war-ships, stretching over twelve miles of sea, was scarcely more remarkable than the colossal fleet of private steamers which attested the grandeur of associated enterprise, and the universality of British commerce, and the graceful yachts which, like the thorough-breds at Epsom and Ascot, spoke of a race of gentlemen famous by field and flood. The remarkable points of the spectacle were the ships opening fire in succession to salute her Majesty; the towering procession of the line-of-battle ships; the attack of the gunboats on the forts, and the parting cheer of the thirty thousand gallant fellows as the royal yacht steamed slowly to the van. But to a practised eye, nothing was more admirable than the precision with which each ship took up her berth again at sunset.

It is evident that our ships were never better handled; the old "salts" of the last generation have no degenerate successors in the more refined heroes of our day, who beat to action in "white kids."

We believe that of the quarter of a million people who lined the shores of Southsea, and blackened the Solent with human freights on Wednesday, only a few thousand remained to see the most striking spectacle of all, when, at the signal of a rocket, in the twinkling of an eye, the

whole fleet was illuminated as if by enchantment, and Spithead streamed like some city of the stars all radiant with palaces of light: and when from the throats of those lusty tars came forth a cheer that might almost have shaken Nelson from his glorious sleep. With that sturdy acclamation closed a memorable day.

What is the moral of that day? What but this? A giant's power is more despicable than impotence when it is but despicably used. There is the power, what has been the use? The fault is not in that gallant navy, but in the nation that confides its destinies and its principles to men without capacity and without conscience.

The Treaty of Peace has been published, by the *Daily News*, before either the French or English Governments have produced it in due form. It is long, yet it is not complete without appendices, and the work which it chalks out is in some part only begun. It is the exact counterpart of the contest and its results, with one exception—Kars does not remain in the hands of the Russians. Otherwise, it is exactly what we might have expected from the dead results of the war. Marine fortresses are not to be maintained on the shores of the Black Sea; the restoration of parts of the Crimea to Russia is purchased by the surrender of a strip of Bessarabia; the Danube is placed under a European commission; the hattee schereef giving certain immunities to the Christian subjects of Turkey, is annexed to the treaty as being communicated by the Sultan; war ships are excluded from the Black Sea; a separate convention between Russia and Turkey to regulate the force of the two Powers for the simple maintenance of order, is another appendix to the treaty; the arrangements for the Aland Islands forming the subject of a third appendix in the shape of a convention between Russia and the Western Powers. Besides the commissions for the purposes already mentioned for the settlement of the Asiatic boundary, of the Bessarabian boundary, and of the Danube regulations, there is also to be a commission for the settlement of the Principalities, in conjunction with the Sultan. The representatives of the Allies had already considered the future Government of the Principalities, in conference with the Ministers of the Sultan, and we now have the memorandum which was the result of that conference. Its general tendency is to systematise the local government of Moldavia and Wallachia, and to increase the securities for law. Among the details is a proposition that so-

reigners may purchase land in the Provinces, and acquire the rights of proprietorship under the protection of the law. It is more than probable that the opening of the Danube, with guarantees of this kind, would introduce into the highly prolific provinces of Turkey enterprising Europeans, who, like the present British Consul, would try the effects of European farming under the shadow of the Crescent. However, this memorandum of the conference at Constantinople only stands in the light of a suggestion; it may be entirely overruled by the European Commission, and it is only serviceable in telling us what the Porte is prepared to concede.

Imperial speeches now occupy attention, and deservedly. All the three Emperors have been making manifestoes, more or less public, more or less accurately reported. The most important of these is given to the world through a private letter published by the *Constitutionnel*—a channel that permits us to ask how the accuracy of the report can be attested by the capacity of the reporting machinery. However that may be, the purport of the speech is probable. The Emperor represented Russia as having been able, if it were necessary, to defend herself for years to come. His father, of imperishable memory, had reason for acting as he did, and the son concurs in the views of his father; but the treaty of Paris has obtained the object which it was his ambition to obtain, and "I prefer these means," says ALEXANDER, "to war," for war interrupts the commerce of the country, its successes scarcely compensating the evils that occasion it. Already manufactures in Moscow have been closed; and ALEXANDER prefers throwing open the ports of Russia to the commerce of the world, and the frontiers to the free circulation of foreign produce. This is "important, if true;" it implies that ALEXANDER has the will and the insight, as well as the desire, to match success out of adversity.

The speech next in importance is undivulged; it is one which FRANCIS JOSEPH made on the occasion of an ecclesiastical meeting to carry out certain parts of the Papal Concordat. The speech is unreported, the proceedings of the meeting are to be unreported, the papers are not to discuss the subject, foreign journals that discuss it are to be excluded. It is a secret business which is to know the light only in its effects.

The third speech is apocryphally reported, and is ominous, if true. The Emperor NAPOLEON, it is said, has suggested to Count CAVOUR the expediency of a reconciliation with Rome. *Credat Iudeus.* Let ROTHSCHILD believe it; for it is a rumour that can profit nobody except jobbers on the Stock Exchange. It reaches the world through the ultra-papistical journals of Italy, who are always reporting what they wish, and denying the stubbornest facts which they dislike. This time, we hope, the facts are against them.

Far more menacing, because far more authentic, is the speech ascribed by the *Daily News* to Count WALEWSKI, in the Congress of Paris on the 8th of April. He looked forward to "future complications," and invited the Plenipotentiaries to exchange ideas upon the solutions of these complications. These subjects are—the anarchy in Greece and the "serious modifications" which the three protecting courts should promote; the "anarchy in the Pontifical States," and the hint that Austria might copy France in withdrawing her troops; a singularly tender suggestion to the King of Naples, that he should be less severe with his subjects; and a demand upon Belgium to put down the free press, or the French Government might find it necessary to put down Belgium. The last, indeed, is a most menacing hint. It is well known that there are men about LOUIS NAPOLEON who are anxious to involve him in fresh quarrels, and he, it has been calculated, would not be sorry to see England involved in fresh quarrels.

It might suit France if we were embroiled with America; and, apparently, it might suit WALEWSKI if NAPOLEON were embroiled with Belgium. No wonder WALEWSKI looks to "complications," for they are the sharpest prophets who make the things they foresee.

Murmurs are arising on every side with respect to the state of our foreign policy. Lord CLARENCE was hailed with cheers when he re-entered the House of Lords after his return from the Paris Conference, for, personally, he is considered to have distinguished himself; but there is an evident mistrust of a certain foreign policy into which our Government is drifting, independently of the question of Kars, which is hanging over and not quite disposed of by the readjustment of the Asiatic boundary. The position of our Government with regard to Italy has become a subject of anxiety, and not the less since Lord CLARENCE's reply to Lord CLARENCARDE shows that our Ministers are prepared to act upon official information, and, therefore, to exclude a real knowledge of the facts. Official ignorance is not justified by judicial ignorance, since the judges have only to determine an issue upon the premises laid before them, but officials have to deal with the world as it is; and if our Ministers ignore the people of Parma, recognising only revolutionaries, Jesuits, and Austrians, they certainly are not qualified or willing to deal with the subject of Italy. Lord LYNDHURST has given notice that he shall call attention to the state of Italy and the advance of Austrian troops beyond the bounds of Austria.

Ministers have sustained another defeat: the Church Discipline Bill has been thrown out on the second reading, by 41 to 33. The Lord Chancellor confessed that this bill was introduced under a kind of compulsion. He had been told that he could not proceed with the Matrimonial and Testamentary Jurisdiction Bills, until he should have prepared the way for revising the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts by laying down a new law of discipline within the Church. The bill proposes to add a lay element in the Bishop's Court, and to add an Irish Bishop to the episcopal committee of the Privy Council, if we may call it so, that is,—the judicial committee, with Bishops sitting as spiritual assessors. The Bishop of EXETER has a rival bill, an old measure now renewed; and Convocation has two other suggestions. It has been made a complaint that the present bill is constructed by Mr. STEPHENS, a lawyer who has paid much attention to ecclesiastical matters, and who has been employed for this special act of authorship by the help-needed Lord Chancellor CRANWORTH. The defence of the Lord Chancellor consisted in showing that the proposals of the Bishop and of Convocation are practically unworkable, and in arguing that we have not now to arrange the institutes of the Church of England, which are already laid down, but to determine whether the acts of the present day conform to those institutes—a duty which clergymen are not trained to exercise, and which is suited only to lawyers. The dispute upon this point between the clergy and the law, appears at the present moment to be irreconcileable, and Parliament, not prepared to arbitrate between the two sides, prefers to do nothing. It has thrown out the Lord Chancellor's Bill; it will most assuredly throw out the Bishop's Bill.

Lord GODERICH proposed a resolution, that open competition should be the condition of entrance to the public service; and supported as he was lately in extracting a reply on the subject of America—by Mr. GLADSTONE, he carried his motion by 106 to 87, against Ministers, with all the support lent to them from the Opposition side of the House.

The Court of Aldermen has made a stand against the City Corporation Bill of Ministers.

The aldermen have adopted a report upon the measure, arguing against it on the grounds that it violates property without offering compensation, by taking away various dues and rights; that it abolishes ancient honours and dignities which are not without a practical value at the present day, putting nothing in their place; and that it is an unmerited attack upon the City which has always come forward to assist in its own improvement. When the Crown commissioners asked to see the revenue returns and the title deeds, the members of the corporation freely showed both; funds for the improvement of London, derived from the coal-tax, have been administered for the benefit of the whole metropolis as well as the City; and, well administered. The act constituting the Central Criminal Court has worked well: it authorises aldermen to sit on the bench with the judges, and if the aldermen do not interfere in delivering judgment, they have proved useful as assessors when they have been consulted on questions of commercial practice, or the apportion of punishment to different classes of offences. The common hall has been a field in which liberal principles have found free play, and the reform cause, with the reforming Ministers to boot, has found much support from the State. On the other hand, the City banquets have been neutral ground, in which public opinion has been able to manifest itself independently of the Government. This last statement is true, and we freely give our testimony. It has been at the Lord Mayor's table that the public opinion and feeling on the subject of America have been most freely and deliberately declared, and we are convinced that those evidences of public feeling have gone far to moderate the rash course into which Government was plunging. There is much force in the report, and it is evident that the City municipality, which might have been the nucleus for one of the finest municipalities that ever existed, is not prepared to acquiesce in its own extinction without a vigorous defence.

A new decision in the Court of Common Pleas has shown that the law is construed strictly against the working classes, however it may be construed liberally as respects their employees. WILLIAM HIND, a bill-sticker, has been found guilty of uttering a placard against MANUEL ATKIN, owner of the Macclesfield-road Lace Factory, at Nottingham. The libel was contained in a placard posted about the town on behalf of a Working Men's Committee, accusing ATKIN of angry and revengeful feelings, of engaging spies, and of generally mean and oppressive conduct. ATKIN had dismissed two men; they were supported by their fellow-workmen and by others in the town, and this action is only one step in the course of the warfare. The injury inflicted against ATKIN appears practically to be, that he and his wife are insulted as they pass about the town, and that workmen will not work for him. If the working men molest a woman, they disgrace themselves, and deserve any evil consequences that may befall them. If Mrs. ATKIN meets with threat or insult in the streets, she ought to find her best protectors in the men around, whether they are working men or "gentlemen;" and we trust that our working-class readers will look to that duty. As for the manufacturer, he has more than protection enough from the law. Under the Wolverhampton decision, men are forbidden to combine together for the purpose of maintaining their own interests and incomes, while the masters are permitted to combine together for the same purpose, and that state of the law necessarily drives working men into evasions. One charge in the placard—for which a Nottingham jury awarded 150/- damages against a bill-sticker—was, that ATKIN employed spies among the men: now, one incident that came out in the defence was, that he had invited HIND to drink with him, had plied him with glasses of ale, and had deliberately tried to pump him in order to obtain evidence as to the issue of the bill. This statement appears to us as libellous as anything in the placard: we find it in the examination of MANUEL ATKIN himself!

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, April 21st.

## THE CURRENCY IN SINGAPORE.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Earl of ALBEMARLE presented a petition from the European and native merchants of Singapore, remonstrating against the introduction by the Government of India of the rupee as the currency of that settlement, instead of the Spanish dollar, which had been long established, and was found convenient and satisfactory. The old currency of Singapore was a decimal one, but that of the rupee is difficult to reckon, and has produced the greatest intricacy and confusion. The Government, by paying its officers in rupees, inflicts on them a serious loss, as that coin is always at a discount; and he therefore hoped the act would be repealed.—EARL GRANVILLE stated that the Home Government, having felt some doubt as to the expediency of the measure, had given instructions that its effect should be closely watched.

## CHURCH DISCIPLINE BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of this bill, which proposed that assessors (barristers) should sit with and act for the Bishop; that four of these chancellors or assessors be appointed, superseding all vicars-general throughout the country; the assessors to be appointed by two Irish Bishops, two English Bishops, and the Bishop of London: before exercising any of their powers, they are to subscribe the Thirty-nine Articles. The jurisdiction of the Bishops' Court includes offences committed by clerks in holy orders, and the proceedings necessary to enforce a due administration of the sacraments and the rites and ceremonies of the Church. All proceedings under the act are to be commenced within two years of the offence. There is an appeal from the Diocesan Court to the Provincial Court, and from the Provincial Court to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.—The Archbishop of CANTERBURY opposed the bill, and moved that it be read a second time that day six months. He made a few remarks, which were almost inaudible.—The Bishop of DERBY, while thinking that some of the details would require modification, approved of the bill as a whole, and read a document in its support, signed by the Archbishops and Bishops of the province of Armagh, who desired to see one final Court of Appeal for England and Ireland, in the constitution of which court the Queen's supremacy should remain intact.—The Bishop of EXETER denounced the bill as involving a large unnecessary expenditure, and as depriving the Church of all power of independent action. The 16th clause destroyed the authority of the Bishop in any given diocese, and vested it at the pleasure of the Archbishop. If the Irish Bishops did not feel the sanctity and divine right of the diocesan episcopacy, they thereby separated themselves from the Church of England. There is nothing in the office of an Archbishop which confers upon him higher episcopal authority than that given to the Bishop. No doubt he possesses higher ecclesiastical authority, but his origin is only ecclesiastical; he has not the divine origin of the Bishop. Moreover, he is perfectly irresponsible. If he transgresses the temporal laws of the country, of course he is as much amenable to punishment as any other person; but the laws of the Church have no authority over him, and he might be an Atheist, and even proselyte others to his heresies, and no one could prevent him. (A laugh.) He would invite the attention of their Lordships to the 16th clause. That clause gave to the Church a power which the Church had never possessed—which the Church never ought to possess—which the Church never sought to possess—and which the Church would refuse to possess, unless it were absolutely forced upon it—the power of committing persons to prison for contempt. Such a blunder could not have proceeded from a mind imbued with ecclesiastical law and ecclesiastical principles. (Hear, hear.) The Church disclaims the power of the sword; but the power of committing to prison is part of the power of the sword. The Church only claims the power of the keys.—The Bishop of BANGOR also opposed the bill as being visionary, impracticable, and costly. He was followed on the same side by the Bishop of OXFORD and the Earl of DERBY.—The Bishop of CASHEL and the Earl of HARROWBY supported the bill.—The LORD CHANCELLOR having replied, their Lordships divided, when there appeared—Contents, 38; Non-contents, 41; majority against the second reading, 8. The bill, consequently, was lost.

The House then adjourned till Thursday.

## CELEBRATION OF PEACE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, several questions were addressed to the Government, having reference to the preparations for celebrating the conclusion of peace; and these questions assumed the form of a debate when the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved that the House at its rising do adjourn until Thursday. The reply on the part of several members of the Government, amounted to this—that they had been guided by precedent; that there was no innovation in making preparations before the terms of the peace were known; that the cost of the fireworks, the exhibition of which would not be confined to the west-end of the town, would not exceed £8,000, and that they did not think it necessary to sub-

mit to the House previously a formal estimate for this outlay.

## THE MORTARS SUPPLIED BY MESSRS. GRIMSHAW AND CO.

MR. MALINS called attention to the charge that had been brought against Messrs. Grimes and Co., of having supplied to the Ordnance flawed and defective mortars. He denied the truth and justice of this charge, and held that both Lord Pannier and Mr. Monks, the clerk of the Ordnance, had been rash and unfair in making it.—MR. MONKS contended that he had stated nothing more than what was perfectly true.—MR. GEORGE DUNDAS, MR. EVELYN, MR. ALDERMAN CURRIE, MR. JOHN PAXINGTON, and MR. TEE, defended Messrs. Grimes, of whose business character they spoke highly.—Lord LOVAT thought they had not acted with honesty and honour; and Captain BOLGER, while acquitting them of fraud, considered that they had been guilty of gross negligence.

The motion for the adjournment having been agreed to, the House went into COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY, after a brief discussion on the subject of

## HEREDITARY PENSIONS.

SIR FRANCIS BARING called the attention of the House to the statement made on the previous Friday night by the Secretary for the Treasury, who said that the purchase-money of the hereditary pensions, redeemed during the past year, was not voted by Parliament, but paid out of the growing produce of the revenue. Sir Francis doubted whether it was legal to raise the money for the redemption of pensions out of the gross revenue without the sanction of Parliament.—MR. WILSON said that the account was not an Exchequer account; and that, with respect to these pensions, it was thought that the best course would be to buy them up, and a certain portion of them had accordingly been bought up. He had, generally, strictly adhered to what had been the uniform custom.—MR. WILLIAMS denounced the act which Government had committed; and the subject then dropped.

## THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

The House resumed the discussion of the Civil Service Estimates, the first of which, £60,000, for the salaries and expenses of the British Museum establishment, was moved by Lord JOHN RUSSELL, who, on the part of the trustees, made the customary statement of the transactions connected with the Museum during the past year.

MR. MONCKTON MILNES entered into some critical remarks on the present management of the Museum, which is vested in the hands of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Speaker of the House of Commons, and fifteen trustees, all of whom are occupied in various ways, and therefore he did not think the management at all a satisfactory one. A report of a commission had been issued in 1850, and it recommended, among other things, that there should be a body, consisting of a few persons, responsible for the government of the Museum; but the recommendation had not been adopted. The selection of Mr. Panizzi, a foreigner, to be head librarian, Mr. Milnes considered was a slight to many deserving Englishmen of distinction in literature and science, one of whom ought to have been preferred.—THE SPEAKER (not being then in the chair) defended the choice of Mr. Panizzi, who was the next officer in position to the late librarian, and who possessed admirable qualifications for the post. As to choosing a foreigner, there were many precedents for that course. Since the formation of the library in 1776, there had been five principal librarians at the Museum (exclusive of Mr. Panizzi); and of these, two had been foreigners. It had also been the invariable rule to select for the post some officer already on the establishment. With regard to the patronage of the Museum, he and his colleagues would have no objection to be relieved from the burden of it.—MR. LAYARD defended the appointment of Mr. Panizzi, but insisted that some reform is required in the government of the Museum.—LORD ELCHO suggested whether it would not be desirable to consider the propriety of separating the different collections and sending the artistic and archaeological portions to the new National Gallery.—THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER stated that several of the recommendations of the commissioners of 1850 have been carried out.—MR. DEBELI urged the necessity of dividing the Museum into three parts, devoted to literature, science, and arts, the present building being not too large for the first alone. He defended the choice of Mr. Panizzi against what he called the personal attack on him made by Mr. Milnes.—After some further discussion (in the course of which Lord JOHN RUSSELL expressed his surprise that Mr. Milnes should have objected to the appointment of Mr. Panizzi because that gentleman is a foreigner), the vote was agreed to, as well as a vote of £18,626 for the Board of Health, after some opposition by MR. MICHELL, MR. WILLIAMS, MR. MILES, and others, principally on the ground of the unnecessarily large salary paid to Mr. Simon, the medical officer.—The House then resumed.

## FIRE INSURANCE BILL.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved the second reading of this bill—a measure intended to prevent the evasion of the duty by effecting insurances abroad, and by this means protecting the English fire offices against foreign competition.—MR. WILKINSON was of opinion that the bill would not accomplish its object. It would drive a valuable branch of business from this country. He moved as an amendment that it be read a

second time that day six months.—MR. EVELYN DENISON and other members expressed similar views, maintaining that the only effectual means of meeting foreign competition is by greatly lowering the present duty.—THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER pleaded the necessity of retaining the present revenue. In the event of a surplus occurring, the reduction of the fire insurance duty would be considered.—Ultimately, the debate was adjourned.

The other business was disposed of, and, at a quarter past two, the House adjourned till Thursday.

Thursday, April 23rd.

## BORDER MARRIAGES.

Lord BROUGHAM presented a petition from the magistrates of Cumberland, complaining of the evils arising from the Scotch law of marriage. His Lordship made some remarks from himself on the anomalous and disgraceful condition of that law, and said that, if possible, an end must be put to the occurrence of such cases as those which might now happen, of persons being married in Scotland and not in England, and of the issue of that union being legitimate on the north of the Tweed, and illegitimate on the south. The law of divorce, also, is very contradictory in the two countries. He knew a case of a respectable merchant of Liverpool, who had married in England, and afterwards gone to Scotland, where he obtained a divorce, which, he was assured by the Scotch bar and the judges, was effectual to render his English marriage void; and he, unhappily for him, married a second time, relying upon that opinion, was prosecuted for bigamy, convicted, and sentenced to imprisonment in England, having unwittingly rendered himself liable to seven years' transportation.—LORD CAMPBELL and MINTO bore testimony to the urgent necessity for a change in the law; but the Earl of ANSTRUTHER differed from this view of the case, and said that he had opposed Lord Brougham's bill of 1835, and should oppose any similar measure. He admitted that the evil stated by the petitioners does exist, but it might be remedied without altering the law of Scotland with respect to marriage—a law which he considered to be sanctioned by all experience in that country, and by the good effects it had there produced.

## FALL OF KARS.

The Earl of MALMSESBURY gave notice that he should bring forward his motion on the fall of Kars, imputing blame to the Government, on Friday, May 2nd.

## THE NAVAL REVIEW.

LORD RAVENSWORTH called the attention of the Government to the total failure of the arrangements made by the Admiralty for the accommodation of the Peers at the naval review. The idea that her Majesty should be accompanied down the line by the House of Peers was a good one, but it had utterly failed from the mismanagement of the Admiralty, combined, he admitted, with the breakdown of the trains on the railroad. They were delayed on the way; there were further delays at Southampton; and the engines of the Transit, the steamer allotted to them, proved defective. In returning, they made way enough to run down a gunboat, but not enough to enable them to return to Southampton till ten o'clock; and the tiller-ropes broke before they got in. Such was the rush at the station afterwards, that he saw a Bishop and a Privy Councillor take refuge in a third-class carriage. Their day's pleasure ended in the Peers and Peerses promenading the railway platform late at night, with not a carriage or cab to be got for love or money. He thought some explanation was required.—EARL GRANVILLE said that, though he had been one of the sufferers, he could not admit that all the blame lay with the Government, the breaking down of the locomotives being one principal cause of the delay. The stokers of the Transit, moreover, had allowed the fires to go out—a point of detail for which the Government could not be responsible. Every inquiry should be made.—THE EARL OF MALMSESBURY complained that Earl Granville, in the midst of their difficulties, had hailed a shore boat, and deserted the ship. He (the Earl of MALMSESBURY) had to walk home at three o'clock in the morning.—LORD CAMPBELL, while admitting that all the blame did not lie with the Government, said that there had been some gross mismanagement, which reminded them of Balaklava. The ship was in such difficulties on the way back to Southampton that two of the Judges were obliged to help work at the capstan! He did not get home till four in the morning, but, as he was able to be at court at eleven, the cause of justice had not suffered.—After some further conversation, the subject dropped.

Similar complaints were made in the Lower House, where Mr. STAFFORD was the first to call attention to the subject. He also compared the arrangements to those at Balaklava, and said that, having witnessed the arrangements of the Government both at home and abroad, he desired to testify to the oneness of the system and the similarity of the principles on which it is based. (Cheers and laughter.) It was not possible for the Government at so short a notice to cover the docks of Southampton with mud, nor were they responsible for the sunshine; but, as far as in them lay, they did their best to make that particular locality resemble Balaklava as much as possible. (Great cheering and laughter.)—Various other members loudly expressed their dissatisfaction, and severe censure was passed on the London and South Western Railway.—LORD PALMERSTON sug-

gested that the discussion should be postponed until Sir Charles Wood was in his place. Sir Charles had been unfortunately detained at Portsmouth. He (Lord Palmerston) had shared in the general discomfort; but he could give no explanation as to the causes.—Sir GONZALO GOMEZ, amidst cries of "Question!" expressed his sense of "the magnificent spectacle" at Spithead, and thought the blame belonged chiefly to the railway; and Mr. HOWARD, to the astonishment of the House, which vented itself in loud laughter, and cries of "Oh, oh!" said it appeared to him that the arrangements were of a very high order, that the House ought to be grateful to them, but that it had shown a great deal of impatience, and did not seem sufficiently to appreciate the magnificent spectacle of the previous day.

## THE DUCHY OF PARMA.

The Earl of CLANRICARDE moved for copies of reports and correspondence relating to the occupation of Parma by Austrian troops and the assumption of the government of the Duchy by Austrian authorities.—The Earl of CLARENCE (who was received with cheers) mentioned that no documents of any importance are in the hands of the Administration on the subject. The general question of Italy had occupied the serious attention of the members of the late Conferences. The circumstances attending the entrance of Austrian troops into the territories of Parma had, he believed, been much exaggerated. The sole purpose had been to strengthen the Government of the Duchess Regent, under the troubles arising from the political intrigues and criminal enterprises which had recently become ripe. But there had been no special intervention, as an Austrian battalion had been kept in Parma since 1849. Moreover, by a convention between the Governments of Parma and Modena, on the one hand, and Austria on the other hand, the Duchies are entitled to call in the aid of Austria in case of need.

## THE AMERICAN QUESTION.

In answer to the Earl of DERBY, the Earl of CLARENCE said his first act on his return was to lay the correspondence relating to Central America before Parliament, and, as regarded the correspondence with reference to the Enlistment Question, it would be produced on the first or second day of next week.

Their lordships then adjourned.

## THE CIVIL SERVICE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, after the remarks and explanations in connexion with the Naval Review, of which a summary appears above,

Lord GODERICH moved an address to her Majesty to state that the House had observed with great satisfaction the zeal and prudence with which the Civil Service Commissioners had proceeded in applying a remedy to evils of a serious character, the previous existence of which had now been placed beyond dispute, and also the degree of progress made towards the establishment of a system of competition among candidates for admission to the civil service; to assure her Majesty of the steady support of that House in the prosecution of the salutary measures which she has been graciously pleased to adopt; and humbly to make known to her Majesty that, if she shall think fit further to extend them, and to make trial in the civil service of the method of open competition as a condition of entrance, that House would cheerfully provide for any charges which the adoption of that system might entail. He supported this motion by a speech in which he argued in favour of enlarging the field of competition in the appointment of civil servants, the present system of partial competition having resulted in one-third or one-fourth of the nominees being rejected on account of their ignorance of the simplest rudiments of knowledge.—The motion was seconded by Sir STAFFORD NORTH-COTE.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that Lord Goderich (the temper and moderation of whose speech he acknowledged) desired that, in place of the present system, by which heads of departments nominate the candidates for open, competitive examination, there should be no nomination, but that every one should be at liberty to compete for the service. That, however, was a system not adopted by railway companies or mercantile bodies, and he did not think it ought to be adopted in the civil service. He read some extracts from M. de Montalembert's work, *De l'Avenir Politique de l'Angleterre*, to show the danger of a craving, on the part of the whole nation, for office—a craving which invariably leads to centralisation and to the subversion of liberty. England, according to M. de Montalembert, is "already on the fatal declivity." The Chancellor of the Exchequer, though not entirely agreeing with these remarks, thought there was a good deal of truth in them; and he therefore moved the previous question.

Mr. GLADSTONE supported the motion. He believed the dangers adverted to by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to result, not from open competition, but from private nomination. The idea of the heads of departments being responsible for their nominees was so absurd, that if any man were to stand up in that House, and assert that, practically, there is any real responsibility, "he would be overwhelmed with the torments of his own laughter." What Mr. Wakley had said on the subject was strictly true—"Ministers may be responsible, but they will not respond." The system of examination must necessarily be centralised. The motion

was most moderately expressed, and he hoped it would be adopted.—Mr. LUSHINGTON opposed the motion.

At this stage of the discussion, Lord GODERICH mentioned that a technical objection had been taken to his motion in its present shape, and, with the view of remedying the defect, he suggested that permission should be given to withdraw the motion, and to substitute the words, that "the House shall resolve itself to-morrow into a committee to consider the subject."—This course was adopted; and the debate was resumed by Mr. EWEY who said that if a division were called for he must vote for the motion.—The motion was supported by Mr. TATE, Lord EBRINGTON, and Mr. RICH; and opposed by Mr. JOHN PHILLIMORE, Mr. PHILIPPS, Lord ROBERT CECIL, and Mr. LABOUCHERE.—Lord GODERICH having replied, a division showed—For the motion, 108; against it, 87: majority, 21.

## ARMY SCIENTIFIC CORPS.

Captain VERNON called the attention of the War Department to the prospective promotion and the establishments of the Army Scientific Corps, with a view to maintaining their efficiency in peace, for the purposes of war.—Lord PALMERSTON assured the gallant officer that the subject would meet with due attention.

## THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Sir FRANCIS BARING moved for a select committee to inquire into the receipt, issue, and audit of public moneys in the Exchequer, the Pay-office, and the Audit Department. He maintained that each of these departments contains defects which ought to be inquired into and rectified.—Mr. WILLIAMS seconded the motion.—Mr. GLADSTONE was ready to admit that ample grounds had been stated for inquiry; but he thought the object would be better accomplished by small and carefully selected commission than by a select committee.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER saw no necessity at the present time for the proposed inquiry; but, if the House thought there was, he would not oppose it.—Lord PALMERSTON spoke to similar effect; and, inquiry having been advocated by Mr. BOWLEY, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. ELLICE, Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY, and Mr. HENLEY, the motion was agreed to.

Some matters of routine having been got through, the House adjourned.

## THE CRIMEAN BOARD OF INQUIRY.

## LORD LUCAN'S CASE.

ADMIRAL SIR EDMUND LYONS was examined on Monday. The tenor of his evidence was to show that he was never applied to for canvas to shelter the horses, nor had he ever heard of such an application; that it would have been impossible to erect canvas stabling on the plateau; that he should have refused the application, had it been made to him, as the fleet would not have been safe without a spare set of sails for each ship; that there never were fifteen sail of the line of the coast, the largest number ever in the Black Sea being eleven, and the average seven; that the fleet could not have spared carpenters to put up shelter, the complement of carpenters not being complete, and the demands upon them very great, owing to the roughness of the sea and of the weather; and that carpenters could not have been obtained at Constantinople, nor indeed even from England.

The Judge-Advocate: "You say you constantly rode through the camp; did it strike you that there was a want of promptitude and ingenuity in providing shelter for the horses?"—Sir Edmund Lyons: "Certainly not. I saw a great many officers putting up a shelter in the manner which I consider most efficient, and that was throwing up an embankment in the direction of the north-east wind. I believe that my friend Sir George Brown's horses never had any other shelter. I remember that Lord Raglan expressed his great satisfaction at it, and at the manner in which the cavalry horses had been sheltered. Whenever I visited the camp, everyone appeared to me to be hard at work, doing their best to put up shelter."—The Judge-Advocate: "Do you consider yourself competent to speak upon the want of promptitude and ingenuity displayed in sheltering the cavalry horses?"—Sir Edmund Lyons said he did not think he was. He had no further information to give.—Colonel Tulloch: "Have I not understood you to express an opinion that there was no want of ingenuity?"—Sir Edmund Lyons: "I said, as far as I could judge."

Admiral Lyons furthermore expressed his high opinion of Lord Raglan, and the pleasure with which he looked back on the cordiality of intercourse between the two services during the war.

Major Connolly, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General, made several statements with a view to showing that Lord Lucan frequently called the attention of his officers to the state of the horses, and that he exerted himself as much as possible to provide for their comfort. Colonel Lowe, 5th Dragoons, being recalled, gave similar testimony, and said that he should not have been properly performing his duty had he allowed any altercation between another officer and Lord Lucan to deter him from doing what was right; but he afterwards admitted, in answer to Colonel Tulloch, that, had he known of any such altercation, it would have deterred him from making suggestions.

This being the whole of Lord Lucan's case, the Board adjourned till Friday, in order to give Colonel Tulloch time to draw up his reply.

## THE TREATY OF PEACE.

THE *Daily News* publishes the following, which it declares to be an authentic copy of the Treaty of Peace concluded at Paris:

## [TRANSLATION.]

The Plenipotentiaries, after having exchanged their plenary powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:—

ARTICLE 1.—From the day of the exchange of ratifications of the present treaty, there shall be peace and friendship between his Majesty the Emperor of the French, her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Majesty the King of Sardinia, and his Majesty the Sultan, of the one part, and his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias of the other part, as well as between their heirs and successors, their respective states, and subjects in perpetuity.

2.—Peace being happily established between their aforesaid Majesties, the territories conquered or occupied by their armies during the war shall be reciprocally evacuated. Special arrangements shall regulate the mode of evacuation, which shall be effected as soon as possible (*aussi prompte que faire se pourra*).

3.—His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias engages to restore to his Majesty the Sultan the town and citadel of Kars, as well as all the other parts of the Ottoman territory of which the Russian troops are in possession.

4.—Their Majesties the Emperor of the French, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the King of Sardinia, and the Sultan, engage to restore to his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias the towns and ports of Sebastopol, Balaklava, Kamiosch, Eupatoria, Kerich. [A vexatious accident occurring at the last moment, has occasioned the loss of two or three slips of this portion of the MS.]

5.—His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, in his constant anxiety for the well-being of his subjects, having granted (*octroyé*) a firman, which, in ameliorating their lot without distinction of religion or race, proves his generous intentions towards the Christian populations of his empire, and desiring to give a further proof of his sentiments in this regard, has resolved to communicate to the contracting Powers the said firman, spontaneously emanating from his sovereign will. The contracting Powers acknowledge (*constatent*) the great value of this communication. It is quite understood that the fact of this communication cannot in any case give to the said Powers a right to interfere, either collectively or separately, in the relations of his Majesty the Sultan with his subjects, or in the internal administration of his empire.

10.—The Convention of July 13, 1841, which maintains the old regulation of the Ottoman Empire relative to the closing of the Straits of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles, has been revised by common accord. The act concluded with this view, and conformably to that principle between the high contracting parties, is and remains annexed to the present treaty, and shall have the same force and value as if it had formed an integral part of it.

11.—The Black Sea is neutralised. Open to the mercantile marine of all nations, its waters and ports are formally and in perpetuity interdicted to flags of war, whether belonging to the Powers having dominion on its coasts (*puissances riveraines*) or to any other power, save and except the exceptions mentioned in Articles 14 and 19 of the present treaty.

12.—Freed from all impediments (*entraves*), trade in the ports and waters of the Black Sea shall only be subjected to regulations of health, customs, and police, conceived in a spirit favourable to the development of commercial transactions. In order to give every desirable security to the commercial and maritime interests of all nations, Russia and the Sublime Porte will admit consuls in the ports situated on the coast (*littoral*) of the Black Sea conformably to the principles of international law.

13.—The Black Sea being neutralised according to the terms of Article 11, the maintenance or establishment on its coast of military-maritime arsenals (*arsenals militaires-maritimes*) becomes unnecessary as without object (*decent sans nécessité comme sans objet*). In consequence, his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and his Imperial Majesty the Sultan engage neither to construct nor to preserve any military-maritime arsenals upon that coast.

14.—Their Majesties the Emperor of all the Russias and the Sultan having concluded a convention for the purpose of determining the force and number of light vessels necessary for the service of their coasts, which they reserve to themselves the right of keeping up in the Black Sea, this convention is annexed to the present treaty, and shall have the same force and value as if it had formed an integral part of it. This convention can neither be annulled nor modified without the assent of the Powers parties to the present treaty.

15.—The act of the Congress of Vienna, having established the principles destined to regulate the navigation of the rivers which separate or traverse several states, the contracting Powers stipulate between themselves that for the future these principles shall be also applicable to the Danube and its embouchures. They

declare that this disposition constitutes henceforth a part of the public law of Europe, and they take it (the disposition) under their guarantee. The navigation of the Danube cannot be subjected to any hinderance (*entrave*) or dues (*redernes*) which shall not be expressly provided for by the stipulations contained in the following articles. In consequence no toll (*péage*) shall be taken that may be based solely upon the fact of the navigation of the river, nor any duty (*droit*) upon merchandise which may be on board vessels. The police and quarantine regulations to be established for the security of the states separated or traversed by this river shall be conceived in such a manner as to favour the circulation of vessels as much as possible (*autant que faire se pourra*). Save these regulations, no obstacle whatever shall be placed in the way of the free navigation.

16.—With the object of realising the dispositions of the preceding article, a Commission in which France, Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey, shall each be represented by a delegate, shall be charged to design and cause to be executed the necessary works from Isatcha downwards (*depuis Isatcha*), in order to clear the mouths of the Danube as well as the neighbouring parts of the sea from the sand and other obstacles which obstruct them, so as to put that part of the river, and the said parts of the sea, in the best possible state of navigability. To cover the expenses of these works, as well as of the establishments having for their object to assure and facilitate the navigation of the mouths of the Danube, fixed duties, at a proper (*convenable*) rate, to be settled by the Commission by a majority of votes, may be levied, on the express conditions that in this respect, as in all others, the flags of all nations shall be treated on a footing of perfect equality.

17.—A Commission shall be appointed, composed of delegates of Austria, Bavaria, the Sublime Porte, and Wurtemberg (one for each of these Powers), to which Commission, the Commission of the three Danubian Principalities, whose nomination shall have been approved by the Porte, shall be joined. This Commission, which shall be permanent, will first draw up the regulations of navigation and of fluvial police; secondly, remove the obstacles (*entraves*), of whatever nature they may be, which as yet prevent the application of the dispositions of the Treaty of Vienna to the Danube; thirdly, give orders for, and cause to be executed, the necessary works throughout the whole course of the river (*sur tout le parcours du fleuve*); and fourthly, after the dissolution of the European Commission, see to the maintenance of the navigability of the mouths of the Danube, and the neighbouring parts of the sea.

18.—It is understood that the European Commission will have fulfilled its task, and that the bordering (*rivaraine*) Commission will have terminated the works designated in the preceding article under the Nos. 1 and 2, within the space of two years. The Powers parties to this treaty, assembled in conference and informed of these facts, will, after having taken note of them (*après en avoir pris acte*), pronounce the dissolution of the European Commission, and thenceforth the permanent bordering (*rivaraine*) Commission shall enjoy the same powers as those with which the European Commission will have been invested up to that time.

19.—In order to assure the execution of the regulations which shall have been settled by common accord, in accordance with the principles hereinbefore enunciated, each of the contracting Powers shall have the right at all times to station two light vessels at the mouths of the Danube.

20.—In exchange for the towns, ports, and territories enumerated in Article 4 of the present treaty, and in order the better to assure the liberty of the navigation of the Danube, his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias consents to the rectification of his frontier in Bessarabia. The new frontier will start from the Black Sea at one kilometre to the east of Lake Bourna-Sola, will perpendicularly rejoin the Akerman-road, follow this road as far as the valley of Trajan, pass to the south of Bolgrad, ascend along the river Yalpuck as far as Saratsika, and will terminate at Kakamori on the Pruth. Above this point the old frontier between the two empires will undergo no modification. Delegates of the contracting Powers will settle, in its details, the boundary line of the new frontier.

21.—The territory ceded by Russia shall be annexed to the Principality of Moldavia, under the suzerainty of the Sublime Porte. The inhabitants of this territory will enjoy the rights and privileges assured to the Principalities, and during the space of three years they shall be permitted to remove their domicile elsewhere, freely disposing of their property.

22.—The Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia will continue to enjoy, under the suzerainty of the Porte, and under the guarantee of the contracting Powers, the privileges and immunities of which they are in possession. No exclusive protection shall be exercised over them by any one of the guaranteeing Powers. There shall be no private (*particulier*) right of interference with their internal affairs.

23.—The Sublime Porte engages to preserve to the aforesaid Principalities an independent and national administration, as well as full liberty of worship, legislation, commerce, and navigation. The laws and statutes now in force shall be revised. To establish a complete

accord as to this revision, a special Commission, with regard to the composition of which the high contracting parties will come to an understanding, will assemble without delay at Bucharest, together with a Commission of the Sublime Porte. The task of this Commission will be to inquire into the actual state and condition of the Principalities, and to propose the bases of their future organisation.

24.—His Majesty the Sultan promises to convolve immediately in each of the two provinces, a divan *ad hoc*, composed in such a manner as to constitute the most exact representation of the interests of all classes of society. These divans are to give expression to the wishes of the populations relative to the definitive organisation of the Principalities. An instruction of the Congress will regulate the relations of the Commission with these divans.

25.—Taking into consideration the opinion expressed by the two divans, the Commission will, without delay, transmit the result of its own labours to the present seat of the Conference. The final understanding of the Suzerain Power will be recorded (*consacrée*) in a convention concluded at Paris between the high contracting parties, and a hatti-scherif conformable to the stipulations of the convention will definitely constitute the organisation of these provinces — placed henceforth under the collective guarantee of all the Powers parties to the treaty.

26.—It is agreed that there shall be in the Principalities an armed national force organised with the object of maintaining the security of the interior, and assuring that of the frontiers. No impediment (*entrave*) is to be placed in the way of such extraordinary measures of defence, as, in accordance with the Sublime Porte, the Principalities may be under the necessity of taking (*seraient appelés à prendre*) to repulse any foreign aggression.

27.—If the internal tranquillity of the Principalities should be menaced or compromised, the Sublime Porte will come to an understanding with the other contracting Powers, as to the measures to be taken to maintain or re-establish legal order. No armed intervention can take place without a previous accord with these Powers.

28.—The Principality of Servia will continue to be dependent upon (*à relever de*) the Sublime Porte conformably to the Imperial hattis, which fix and determine its rights and immunities placed henceforth under the collective guarantee of the contracting Powers. In consequence, the said Principality will preserve its independent and national administration, as well as full liberty of worship, legislation, commerce, and navigation.

29.—The right of garrison of the Sublime Porte, such as is stipulated by anterior regulations, is maintained. No armed intervention is to take place in Servia without a previous accord between all the contracting Powers.

30.—His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias and his Majesty the Sultan keep in its integrity the state of their possessions in Asia, such as it existed legally before the rupture. In order to prevent any local contest, the boundary of the frontier will be verified, and if need be rectified, but so as that no territorial prejudice shall result to either of the two parties from any such rectification. With this view a mixed Commission composed of two Russian Commissioners, two Ottoman Commissioners, one French Commissioner, and one English Commissioner, shall be sent to the locality (*sur le lieu*) immediately after the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the Court of Russia and the Sublime Porte. The labours of this Commission are to be terminated within the space of eight months, dating from the exchange of the ratifications of the present treaty.

31.—The territories occupied during the war by the troops of their Majesties the Emperor of the French, the Emperor of Austria, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the King of Sardinia, under the terms of the Conventions signed at Constantinople on March 12, 1854, between France, Great Britain, and the Sublime Porte, the 14th of June of the same year between Austria and the Sublime Porte, and the 15th of March, 1855, between Sardinia and the Sublime Porte, shall be evacuated as soon as possible (*aussiôt que faire se pourra*) after the ratifications of the present treaty. The time within which the evacuation is to be effected (*les délais*), and the means of execution, will be the subject of a convention between the Sublime Porte and the Powers whose troops occupy the territories.

32.—Until the treaties or conventions which existed before the war between the belligerent Powers shall have been renewed or replaced by new acts, the commerce of importation and exportation shall go on reciprocally upon the footing of the rules in force before the war, and their subjects shall in all other respects (*en toute autre manière*) be respectively treated upon the footing of the most favoured nation.

33.—The Convention concluded this day between their Majesties the Emperor of the French, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of the one part, and his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias of the other part, relative to the Aland Isles, is and

remains annexed to the present treaty, and shall have the same force and value as if it had made part of it.

34.—The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Paris, within the space of four weeks, or sooner, if possible. In faith of which, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed it and have hereto affixed the seal of their arms.

#### COUNT WALEWSKI ON THE GREEK AND ITALIAN QUESTIONS.

FROM the *Daily News* of yesterday we derive a summary (which we give simply on the authority of that journal) of Count Walewski's speech on the Greek and Italian Questions, delivered at the sitting of the Congress on the 8th inst. After some formal business,

Count Walewski rose and said: He thought it was desirable that, before they separated, the Plenipotentiaries should exchange their ideas upon various subjects which called for solution, and which it might be useful to take into consideration, with a view to prevent future complications. Although they had assembled for the special purpose of arranging the Eastern question, the Congress might, in his opinion, have to reproach itself if it were not to take advantage of the circumstances which had brought together so many representatives of the principal Powers of Europe, to elucidate certain questions, lay down certain principles, and give utterance to certain sentiments — all with the sole object of assuring the tranquillity of the world by dispelling, while yet they were not too threatening, the clouds which might already be seen lowering in the political horizon. It could not, he said, be denied, that Greece was in an abnormal situation. The anarchy to which that country had been abandoned had compelled France and England to send troops to the Pirus, and that at a time when their armies had no lack of employment elsewhere. The Congress knew what was the state of Greece at that moment. Moreover, Congress could not be ignorant that the condition of that country was far from satisfactory at the present time. It would not therefore be a proceeding without its utility if the Powers represented in the Congress were to manifest a desire to see the three protecting Courts take into their mature consideration the deplorable situation of the kingdom which they had created, and devise means to apply a remedy. Count Walewski did not doubt that Lord Clarendon would concur with him in declaring that the two Governments were most anxiously looking forward to the moment when they might safely put an end to their occupation of Greece; but this they felt they could not do, so long as serious modifications were not made in the present state of things in Greece.

The French Plenipotentiary afterwards reminded the Congress that the Pontifical States were also in an abnormal situation. The necessity of not leaving those States a prey to anarchy had determined France as well as Austria to respond to the request of the Holy See in occupying Rome with her troops while Austria occupied the Legations. France had a double motive in deferring without hesitation to the desires of the Holy See — 1st, as a Catholic; and 2nd, as a European Power. As the "eldest child of the Church," a title of which the Emperor was most proud, his Majesty had made it a duty to give his aid to the Sovereign Pontiff. But, further, the tranquillity of the Roman States, upon which depended the tranquillity of all Italy, was much too closely connected with the maintenance of order in Europe for France not to have an interest of the highest kind to assist, by all the means in her power, in the preservation of order in the Pope's dominions. He fully saw how much there was that was abnormal in the situation of a Power which had need of the support of foreign troops in order to maintain its authority. He did not hesitate to declare, and he hoped that Count Buol would say as much on the part of Austria, that France was not only ready to withdraw her troops from Rome, but she desired with all her heart that the time when she might do so without compromising the interests of the Pontifical Government, in which the Emperor took so lively an interest, might not be indefinitely postponed. It was most desirable, in the interest of the equilibrium of Europe, that the French forces should be enabled safely to evacuate the Roman States. He did not doubt that the frank expression of these sentiments on the part of France and Austria would do good, and produce a favourable impression.

Continuing in the same order of ideas he felt prompted to inquire whether it was not to be wished that certain Governments in the Italian Peninsula should, by acts of well-considered clemency, conciliate such of their subjects as were not perverted though they had gone astray, and should thus put an end to a system which operated directly contrary to its object, a system which, instead of restraining the enemies of order, had for its effect to weaken the Governments that acted upon it, and to augment the number of the partisans of demagogery? In his opinion, it would be to render a signal service to the Government of the Two Sicilies, as well as to the cause of order in the Peninsula, to enlighten that Government on the subject of the wrong course which it was pursuing. He thought that a warning conceived in this

spirit, and coming from the Congress, would be well received by the Neapolitan Government, which could not possibly entertain any suspicion of the motives of advice coming from such a quarter.

Count Walewski next called the attention of the Congress to a subject which, although relating more immediately to France, was nevertheless one of real interest to all European Powers. It was well-known that in Belgium publications were printed every day which contained the most hostile and insulting attacks upon France and her Government, and that in these publications revolt and assassination were openly advocated. Very recently some Belgian journals pronounced an eulogium on the "Marianne," a secret society whose tendencies and objects were notorious. All these publications were so many implements of war directed against the internal tranquillity of France by the enemies of social order, who, strong in the impunity which they enjoyed under the shelter of Belgian legislation, cherish the hope of succeeding in their guilty projects. He protested that the sincere desire of the Emperor was to maintain the best relations with Belgium, and he hastened to add that his Majesty's Government had every reason to be satisfied with the Cabinet of Brussels, which had done its best to mitigate a state of things which it was not in its power to change, because the laws of Belgium did not empower it to check the excesses of the press nor to take the initiative of a reform which had become absolutely indispensable. We should regret (the French Plenipotentiary continued) to be placed under the obligation of ourselves making Belgium to understand that it is imperatively necessary to modify a legislation which is not compatible with the fulfilment by her Government of the first of international duties—namely, that of not tolerating intrigues having for their avowed object to disturb the tranquillity of neighbouring states.

#### THE CZAR'S SERMON ON THE WAR.

THE Emperor Alexander, at a recent unanticipated visit to Moscow, gave an audience to Count Zakrewski, the military governor. The different circles of the nobility, with the Marshal who presides over them, and the grand military and civil functionaries, were also admitted to an audience; and, when these personages had assembled around him, the Emperor addressed them as follows:—

"The war, gentlemen, is at an end, for before leaving St. Petersburg I ratified the Treaty of Peace which had been signed by the Plenipotentiaries assembled at Paris. I am happy to announce this news to you officially, and to repeat before the nobles of Moscow the words which I addressed to my people in my last manifesto. Russia might have defended herself energetically for many long years, and I think that, whatever force might have been brought against her, she was invulnerable on her own territory. But for the real interests of the country I thought fit to listen to propositions compatible with the national honour. War is a normal state of things, and the greatest successes which may be obtained are not equivalent to the evils which are caused. The war had suspended the commercial relations of the empire with the greater part of the nations of Europe. I should certainly have continued it had not the voice of neighbouring nations been raised against the policy of these latter years. My father, of imperishable memory, had his reasons for acting in the way he did. I knew his designs, and I fully adhered to them. But the treaty of Paris has fully attained the object he had in view; and I prefer that means to war. Many among you, I am aware, regret that I adhered so promptly to what was proposed to me. It was my duty as a man, and as the head of a great empire, to reject or frankly to accept. That duty I have fulfilled conscientiously and in good faith. I feel assured that allowances will be made for the difficulties of the state of affairs, and that before long every devoted friend of Russia will do justice to my intentions and to my views for the future welfare of the country. Supposing that the chance of arms had been always favourable to us, as it was in Asia, the empire would have exhausted its resources in keeping up large armies on different points, and hands would have been wanting for agriculture and manufactures. Even in the government of Moscow the large industrial establishments had closed their doors. I prefer the real prosperity of the arts of peace to the valour of combats. I have just opened Russian ports to the commerce of the world, and the frontiers to the free circulation of foreign produce. I wish that henceforward in our markets an exchange should be made between the productions of every country and those of our own soil. Several plans will be shortly communicated to you for giving an impetus to native industry, in the realisation of which I rely on every nobleman taking part."

#### THE CRIMEA.

THE annexed despatch from General Codrington has been published by Lord Panmure:—

"Sebastopol, April 7.

"My Lord,—The Stromboli returned this morning with Dr. M'Illree from Redout Katch.

"The letter from Prince Bebouhoff, at Tefis, of which a copy is herewith transmitted, shows that General Williams has recovered his health, and has been forwarded to Riazan, near Moscow; and that, consequently, it was not necessary for Dr. M'Illree to go to Tefis, nor do the Russians seem to have wished that he should pass their lines. Your Lordship will see that the armistice has been established in Asia.

"Dr. M'Illree accordingly returned, bringing me letters from Abdil Pacha, who was in temporary command of the Turkish troops during the absence of Omar Pacha.

"The service for which Dr. M'Illree was selected would probably have exposed him to a difficult, if not a dangerous journey at this time of year, across mountain passes and among such a population; his mission would have required circumspection and activity, and I beg to bring his name to your Lordship's notice from his service at Scutari, and his selection by Sir J. Hall for the duty on which he had been ordered.

"I have, &c.,

"W. J. CODRINGTON, General Commanding.

"The Lord Panmure, &c."

Prince Bebouhoff's letter simply contains the fact above notified.

A report from Dr. Hall, dated April 7, speaks of the sanitary condition of the English army as very satisfactory.

Some statements with respect to the health of the French army are published by the *Moniteur*, which says:—"The Emperor, much concerned about the state of health of the army in the East, had charged one of his aides-de-camp, General Lespinasse, to inquire of Marshal Pelissier and of the French authorities at Constantinople into the causes of the epidemic and respecting the means to stop it. General Lespinasse, who was provided with the fullest powers to accomplish his mission, has, in obedience to the orders given by the Emperor, drawn up a report, in which he informs the Emperor that the epidemic has ceased in the Crimea, and that he has proceeded to Constantinople to continue his inquiries."

At a recent review of the French and English armies in the Crimea, General Lüders and a considerable number of Russian officers were present.

#### THE NAVAL REVIEW.

BRITANNIA had a grand exhibition, last Wednesday, of what she can do on her own favourite element. The 23rd of April—St. George's Day—has been looked forward to for several weeks past as the great day of the season. Half England has crowded down to Portsmouth, Southsea, Portsea, Gosport, and other adjacent ports of Hampshire; Royalty has come forward specially to rule the waves; Lords and Commons, forgetting Parliamentary business and fashionable *ennui*, have fluttered about the gigantic armament, like the merest satellites of its strength; and all the Mrs. Joneses and Mrs. Smiths, who let lodgings in the favoured localities, and all the Mr. Browns and Mr. Robinsons who are licensed to "virtual" man and beast in the same, have made small extra-tempore fortunes by what are called "fabulous prices"—the fable being a very solid fact to those who had to pay the amounts claimed. The sight was, in truth, of unparalleled magnificence and grandeur; and, considering that every Englishman has a natural taste for the sea, and a native-born love for the huge yet graceful evolutions of those floating castles which are the most palpable evidences of our might, it is not to be wondered at that Wednesday was a great success.

An immense number of visitors arrived at the various towns along the coast on Tuesday, when the demand for accommodation became so great that three or four guineas were obtained for beds; and it is asserted that at some places the lodging-house keepers absolutely asked as much as 15*l.* for sleeping accommodation. Hotels were gorged till they overflowed, and the superflux was shaken into the streets, where many persons passed the night; but all was willingly borne for the sake of what was to come. The dawn at length broke gloriously, and the fair promise was maintained throughout the day, though here in London east winds and the ghost of a November fog haunted the half-deserted town.

"At eight o'clock," says the *Times*, "the whole fleet, as if by magic, was 'dressed' in flags and ensigns from their main trucks to the water's surface; and now the curtain seemed to have risen upon the glorious pageant of the day. But the busiest sight in the national drama about to be enacted was that presented on the land. The myriads of human beings who poured on to the beach from every point and outlet were beyond all precedent, and the heterogeneous cosmopolitan character was not the least remarkable feature of the whole affair. Gradually the walls, ramparts, ravelins, mounds, house-tops, and even church-steeples, entered into bold com-

petition with the water in exhibiting their venturesome masses, until surrounding objects, even the great fleet itself in the distance, became almost insignificant items in the animated panorama. The scene from Southsea beach was magnificent. A violet sky, pure and unclouded as that of Italy—a rippling, dimpling, flashing, sparkling sea—green, elastic sward of the freshest verdure—dazzling uniforms, and many-coloured costumes—brilliant equipages, music, flags, laurel-wreaths, happy human faces, and 'ladies' laughter ringing through the air, were the accessories of a scene as gay, brilliant, and animated as any that, with much experience of popular spectacles, we remember to have ever witnessed. Nor should we omit to enumerate among the sources of enjoyment the aromatic sea-breeze, that *si est d'ore parfumé de la mer* of which Alexandre Dumas descants so eloquently, and which is so delightfully exhilarating to those whose fate it is to be pent up in cities. Tents and pavilions brightly dotted the green turf, and wagons, barouches, phaetons, and all manner of things that run on wheels, were drawn to the margin of the water. Thousands of people sauntered over the sands or lay on the shingle of the beach watching through telescopes and opera-glasses the movements of the fleet. This multitude extended from Fort Monckton on the west to Southsea Castle on the east, a distance of three miles; and must have comprised something like 100,000 persons. Near Southsea Castle, a great stand had been erected in the cause of sight-seeing; and it, like other smaller structures of the same description, was crowded ith visitors.

"Her Majesty's train arrived at the Royal Clarence Victualling-yard at five minutes to twelve o'clock, being above three-quarters of an hour after its time. On alighting, her Majesty was received by Admiral Sir William Parker, G.C.B., principal naval aide-de-camp; Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, G.C.B.; the Marquis Townshend, aide-de-camp; Sir Charles Wood, Sir Maurice Berkeley, Rear-Admiral Peter Richards, Rear-Admiral Eden, Captain Milne, Sir Robert Peel, &c., forming the full Board of Admiralty; also by Admiral De la Graville, of the French Imperial Navy, Captain Superintendent Dacres, Master-Attendant Davies, Storekeeper Pinhorn, R.N., Mr. Godson, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Scott, and other officers of the railway company, and a guard of honour. The Court immediately embarked on board the State barge, and was steered by Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman to the Victoria and Albert, lying in the harbour stream. Her Majesty was accompanied in the yacht by Sir William Parker, Sir Edmund Lyons, the Marquis Townshend, Admiral De la Graville, and Mr. Osborne, Secretary of the Admiralty. After a short interval, the trumpeter stationed on the Pier Battery announced the approach of the Royal Yacht. The guns of the Platton Battery instantly confirmed the intelligence, and in a few minutes the Victoria and Albert rapidly steamed out of the harbour, and glided swiftly towards Spithead, amid the enthusiastic acclamations of the assembled multitude, the hands ashore and afloat striking up the National Anthem, while every vessel dipped her ensign."

Some hitch occurred in the arrangements for the accommodation of her Majesty's faithful Lords and Commons, whereat they grumbled loudly, and with some reason, considering that they had to wait at Southampton for more than an hour for further arrivals from London before they could be conveyed on board ship to the scene of the review—a delay which prevented their beholding some of the most interesting portions of the ceremony; but for the most part the day's business seems to have gone off well.

"It was not till a few minutes after twelve," writes one of the *Daily News* reporters, "that the Royal yacht, preceded by the Black Eagle, and followed by the Elfin and Fairy, came out of Portsmouth harbour, and rapidly traversed the channel, parallel to Southsea beach. As this occurred unexpectedly, the whole multitude on shore started up, moved by one impulse, and gazed earnestly on the after-deck of the Victoria and Albert, where her Majesty, with the Prince Consort, and Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, were immediately recognised. In less than ten minutes, the Queen had passed round the Spit Buoy, and got into the roads. Then from the broadside of the Duke of Wellington poured forth a cloud of white smoke, and loudly pealed out the notes of loyal salutation, repeated by every other ship along either line, like innumerable echoes from shore to shore of the straits, and the fleecy masses of vapour rolled together, so as for a few minutes to conceal the fleet from sight. When the scene cleared, the royal squadron had turned towards the north-west, and was swiftly crossing the bay to Gillicker Point, behind which it was presently hidden. For about half an hour, those on shore were deprived of the sight of it. Then the three raking masts of the Victoria and Albert, each with its gorgeous pennon, were again perceived between the frigates of the fleet; the royal yacht and tenders were by that time returning, in a south-easterly course, through the roads where the fleet lay at anchor, having had to go to the remote extremity of the position then occupied by the gunboats, as above described, in order to enter at the rear between the double line of vessels, and so from rear to van of the whole fleet, beginning

with the gunboats, next passing the brigs, corvettes, and smaller steamers, then the frigates, and so to the greater ships of the line. Her Majesty and suite steadily advanced, until they reached the flag-ships, the huge three-deckers, Duke of Wellington and Royal George, and emerged from the lines at half-past one o'clock. Every ship as the Queen passed by manned all the yards with admirable alacrity, and acknowledged the royal presence with a joyous burst of English and sailor-like cheering.

"At a respectful distance behind, a couple of miles or so, the Royal squadron was followed in its progress through the fleet by all the flotilla of gunboats, which had left their anchorage behind the station as soon as the Queen's yacht entered between the ships of the line. The gunboats now came on, two and two—that is, in double line, similar to the order in which the large ships were anchored—proceeding towards the flag-ships at the head of the fleet in a very steady and regular manner, and keeping on the prescribed path between the two lines of first-raters and frigates, in comparison with the size of which they looked quite boyish. The gunboats being more than a hundred in number, it was necessarily a matter of time to bring the last of them to the end of a five-mile course. It was nearly three o'clock before the entire flotilla got out of the lines, and, dividing into two squadrons, to the right hand and to the left hand (or as it is technically said, to the starboard and to port), turned round the flag-ships, each on its own side, and went to their appointed positions nearer the shore. By this time, other arrangements for the combined operation to be thus represented were in progress. Two or three of those grim iron-mailed monsters, the floating batteries, had been detached from the rear of the fleet, and, together with the exercising brigs, a mortar vessel or two, and the Meander and Belisle, sailing vessels, formed a stationary line across the bay, just outside the site of the sandbank, and near enough to be well examined by the people on shore. One squadron of gunboats took up its place beyond them, so as to command Fort Monckton and that part of the coast. A squadron of sixteen or twenty gunboats (perhaps more, for it was difficult to get an uninterrupted view of the whole line of them at once) came straight in towards Southsea Castle, just eastward of the Boyne buoy, and anchored about a mile off, with all their broadsides bearing on the fortress; but no preparations were made in the castle to return their amicable fire.

"The breeze in the afternoon was not sufficient to prevent the accumulation of a good deal of smoke and haze, by which the view of the fleet was rendered less distinct than it had been at an earlier hour. After the Royal yacht had gone far out to the Nab, and marked the farthest limit of the course, the whole mighty fleet at once weighed anchor, cast off the trappings of its flotilla flags, and, with a stately and a measured pace, moved in superb procession towards the place occupied by its illustrious Mistress. Then, indeed, the wondering and gratified admiration of the multitude who saw that glorious spectacle rose to a higher pitch than before. It was as if the mountains had arisen to walk the earth, when those stupendous creatures of human skill, which had appeared to be permanent objects in the scenery around them, began to stride over the sea. The increasing distance from which they leomed through the misty atmosphere seemed in no appreciable degree to diminish their relative vastness. They were followed, until they reached their goal and turned, by the earnest gaze of many constant eyes.

"The fleet, an hour or two later, returned to the anchorage which they at first occupied, and the Royal squadron was saluted, as in the morning, upon passing the Spit buoy on its way back into the harbour. The gunboats stationed against Southsea Castle fired six rounds at half-past four, giving the people on the beach an opportunity of observing how their guns are worked. Her Majesty's yacht then returned into Portsmouth, and the entertainment of the day was done."

A novel and very beautiful effect was produced at night by the sudden and unanticipated illumination of the fleet. This was obtained by simultaneously lighting up the yards and port-holes with blue lights. "At nine o'clock gun fire," says the *Times*, "the whole fleet at anchor burst into light as by magic, the jets being one above another; and the ports of each vessel opening at once, showed a vivid glare between decks, causing an unusual roar of cheering from the shore, which was echoed and given back with interest from the boats of the legion afloat. From nine to ten, rockets were then sent up thickly from the ships, and rained a golden shower upon the 'floating capital.'"

The amount of crowding on Wednesday at the stations of the various railways which run in the direction of the show proved, as may be expected, something terrific, and there was, as usual on these occasions, a goodly sprinkling of the "roughs." The arrangements, however, were all well carried out. According to the official statements, the number of carriages sent down, and composing the various trains to Southampton and Portsmouth, were 867, conveying upwards of thirty thousand persons.

## CONTINENTAL NOTES.

## FRANCE.

Count Buol and Baron de Manteuffel took leave of the Emperor of the French on Thursday week, and on the following day they left Paris together by the early train—the Count for Vienna, the Baron for Berlin.

The *Indépendance Belge* states positively that more discussions upon the Italian question have taken place in the Conferences. At the last sitting, Russia and Austria maintained that every sovereign has a right to call in the aid of another power, and to retain that aid as long as he chooses, without consulting the wishes of other States. England and Piedmont maintained a contrary opinion, and so lively was the debate that Lord Clarendon, it is asserted, allowed an expression to escape him when speaking of Austrian policy, which is not likely to find a place in the *procès-verbal*. He described it as "an infernal policy."

"I am assured on good authority," says the *Times* Paris Correspondent, "that Béranger denies positively that he is the author of the verses 'Aux Etudiants' attributed to him."

It is stated as certain that Count de Morny will be appointed Ambassador Extraordinary to St. Petersburg, for the Coronation of the Emperor of Russia. He will probably be afterwards made President of the Senate, and the place of Arch-Chancellor will be established for M. Troplong.

It is stated that France has been endeavouring to effect a reconciliation between Rome and Piedmont, and that both those Powers have exhibited great moderation.

"In the sitting of the Corps Législatif on Friday week," says the *Daily News* Paris Correspondent, "on the occasion of the introduction of the Comte de Labédoyère, the newly elected member for the Seine Inférieure, Count de Montalembert made an important speech on the subject of the recent decision of the Court of Cassation with respect to the liberty of distributing electoral bulletins. Immediately on rising, he was interrupted by the President, Count de Morny, who inquired whether he disputed the election. M. de Montalembert replied that he did not. His only object was to make some general observations on the working of the electoral law. He admitted that the present rules of the House did not give him a right to make any interpellation. An interpellation would involve an answer; he did not ask for, he knew that he had no right to expect, any. He merely wished to express an opinion with regard to the electoral law. The President said it was most desirable that there should be no misunderstanding. He had always thought, and was now more than ever convinced, that the best-considered constitutions, the most far-seeing regulations, required in their working the assistance of the parties acting under them with good faith and common sense. Interpellations had been erased from their regulations, and could not be made. But he was prepared to acknowledge that observations presented with moderation, and in a good spirit, might be made in that House with advantage to the country, to the House itself, and even to the Government. He would therefore authorise M. de Montalembert to make his observations, but under the express reserve that the Government should not be obliged to answer them, and that he (the President) should have full right to stop the speaker if he found the course of his observations transgressing the limits alluded to." M. de Montalembert then contended that, as the Government had been based on universal suffrage, that principle should be honestly carried out. He was no great admirer of universal suffrage; but the people would rather forgive a Government that oppresses than one which deceives them. He said that, if he were a factious man of opposition, he should hope that the prefects might be authorised to denounce as enemies of the Emperor men who had been his ministers, as had been done in the case of M. de Chasseloup-Laubat, and that they might lock up in prison every bearer of an electoral bulletin—he should hope and wish for this, because he was thoroughly convinced that such a course could not fail to rejoice the spirit of opposition where it existed, and to raise it up where it was dead. But, as a good citizen, he wished to give the Government a warning, dictated by the spirit of justice and loyalty. The very word election implied choice, and choice meant that one candidate might be preferred to another. It was the right of the elector to make preparation for his choice. Art. 21 of the organic decree stipulated that the electors should come to the poll with bulletins prepared outside the electoral meeting. Every elector, consequently, might have recourse to a third party to prepare his bulletin. There might, therefore, according to this decree, be concert and discussion between citizens. From this it necessarily resulted, to his mind, that the distribution of bulletins by one elector to another was a thing permitted."

## AUSTRIA.

One half of the Austrian army of occupation in the Danubian Principalities is about to return to Austria. An order to that effect has been transmitted to General Coronini.

## PRUSSIA.

A paragraph has been inserted identically in all the Prussian papers, the origin of which is clearly the *Police Präsidium*, to the effect that very careful investigations have been instituted of late with regard to the Potsdam despatch theft; and that these investigations would already have led to a judicial trial of Techel, if the latter had not been confined by illness to the hospital of the *Stadtvoogtei* prison for the last few weeks. As the man is already seventy-five years old, has been an invalid for a long time, and has now no interest in getting well, it is more than probable that he will continue to be confined by illness to the sick ward of the prison.—*Times Berlin Correspondent*.

The trial of Herr von Rochow for the Hinkeldey duel is now completed, and the result has been communicated to the King, but for the present is kept a profound secret from the public.

The Prussian Government is experiencing great opposition on financial grounds from the Lower House, which refuses to vote any new taxes until the Ministers clearly state what they intend to do with the unsupposed balance of 30,000,000 thalers voted for the *Kriegsberichtschaft*. The balance amounts to about 18,000,000 thalers.

The reduction of the war footing of the army to its usual peace complement will affect more particularly—1, all the cavalry regiments; 2, all the batteries of the nine regiments of artillery (the recently organised fifth batteries, 6-pounds, of every regiment are to be entirely disbanded); 3, the technical companies of the artillery.

The King of Prussia ratified the *Treaty of Peace* on Friday week. The Emperor of Austria ratified on the 15th instant.

## SWEDEN.

Prince Oscar, third son of the King of Sweden, will shortly arrive in London, preparatory to his marriage with the Princess Mary of Cambridge. The Queen Dowager of Sweden will set out for Paris about the 10th of May.

## DENMARK.

The English Government, having refused to agree to the Danish proposal for capitalising the Sound Dues, has made a proposition of its own, which is of the following nature, viz.:—That the dues are to be retained, but that their amount shall in future be levied in the Baltic ports instead of at Elsinore. The Governments of the Baltic States, however, oppose this arrangement, on the ground that it is impracticable and at variance with their expressed wishes and interests. The Prussian Government is in favour of capitalisation; and committees of both Houses of the Diet have been appointed to consider the question. The report of the committee of the House of Deputies has been given in: it recommends the House to express its agreement with the Government in again recognising the prejudicial influences of the Sound Dues on Prussia's commerce and shipping interests, and its hope that the ministers will energetically follow up the getting rid of the Sound Dues in the negotiations that have been opened on the subject.

## RUSSIA.

An Imperial decree dissolves the whole of the militia. Count Orloff is appointed President of the Council of Ministers, vice Tschernischoff. Orders have been given to rekindle the lighthouses and replace the buoys along the whole coast.

The semi-official *Dresden Journal* confirms the retirement of Count Nesselrode from the Russian Foreign Office. He is succeeded there by Prince Gortschakoff, recently Russian ambassador at Vienna. Count Nesselrode will retain the title and office of Arch-Chancellor of the Empire.

It is stated by well-informed persons that it is the intention of the Emperor Alexander to free all the children born of serfs on and after the day of his coronation. Various circumstances, moreover—among others, the large demand on the peasant population made by the war, which has been a great injury to this species of "property"—have induced a desire on the part of many of the nobility to put an end to serfdom, or at any rate to modify that system to a considerable extent.

The proceedings taken against General Kokonovich, who commanded the fortress of Kinburn when it was captured, on the 17th of October last, by the naval forces of England and France, have been brought to a close. The examination of the General's conduct was referred to a Council of Inquiry, which sat at Odessa on the 3rd inst. The council, after a thorough investigation of all the facts connected with the attack and defence of the place, and of the text of the capitulation, declared that the General's conduct in such circumstances deserved no blame, and that there was no occasion to summon a court-martial to inquire into it.

## SPAIN.

A report that an insurrection had broken out at Granada, on the occasion of the drawing for the conscription, produced at Madrid only a slight alarm, which was soon dissipated. The committee of the congress appointed to examine into the conduct of the ministers have decided on impeaching Sartorio. The *Gazette* denies the truth of the rumours relative to the retirement of the Duke de la Victoria.

The *Paris Constitutionnel* contains a very bitter article against Espartero, accusing him of ambition, and of de-

siring to establish a Federative Republic in the Peninsula, with himself as President. The French journal recommends intervention.

## ITALY.

Intelligence from Parma states that the Ministers of the Interior and of Finance, MM. Cattani and Lombardini, have resigned. The measures taken by the authorities are still very severe. Orders have been given to wall up the windows of certain private houses having a view of the garden of San Paolo, adjoining the ducal palace. A chest filled with Piedmontese papers has been seized in the house of a poor woman at Borgotaro; and she herself and many other persons have been arrested in consequence.

The King of Naples finds it to his interest to flatter France. He has therefore attended the *grand fête* given by the French ambassador in honour of the birth of an heir to Louis Napoleon. Another singular fact is the growing clemency of Bomba to his wretched subjects. Orders have been issued to stay some political prosecutions, and eighty-two persons who have recently been under the surveillance of the police have been released. It is conjectured that the King fears some interposition on the part of the great European Powers. "There is much talk in Naples," says the *Times* correspondent, "of a representation having been sent by this Government to foreign Governments showing that a Constitution here would lead to the establishment of a Republic, and that a note had been received in answer, guaranteeing the throne from excesses through the intervention of the Allies. I cannot trace it to any authentic source, but it is generally spoken of."

## TURKEY.

Some further particulars of the murder of the Greek girl at Toulitcha are given in a letter from Constantinople, where we read:—"The pacha, who is a general of brigade, first saw the girl standing at the door of a house in Toulitcha, and her youth (she was only eighteen) and her great beauty caused him to be suddenly smitten with her. He immediately had her seized by his soldiers, placed in a carriage, and carried to an adjacent village. When the parents of the girl commenced their search after her, the pacha carried her to a more distant village, and took up his quarters in a house occupied by a Greek family. He locked the girl up in a chamber, and placed a watch over her, but she found means to speak with the mistress of the house, and to implore her to save her. The woman went at once to the *tehor-badgi*, or Christian chiefs of the commune, and they, taking their horses, proceeded to Varna, where they laid a complaint before the Pacha-Governor, the French General commanding the town, the English Consul, and the Greek Bishop. Orders were sent to the pacha to present himself at Varna, and he set out; but before leaving he gave orders to a corporal to murder the girl. These were faithfully executed."

General Williams, whose health has now for some time been re-established, is expected to arrive very shortly at Constantinople.

## THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The protocol with reference to the Danubian Principalities, drawn up at Constantinople on the 11th of February, 1856, by the Ministers of the Porte and the representatives of France, England, and Austria, has been published. This document is addressed to Count Walewski, to be submitted by him to the Paris Conference, to serve as a groundwork for the committee appointed to consider the future condition of the Danubian Principalities. It provides that the Hesopodars shall be named for life from the most distinguished families of the country; that the Principalities shall each pay annually to the Imperial Government "a fixed tribute, of just and moderate proportions," but shall not be subject to any other charges; that they shall fix the number of their troops by agreement with the Porte; that the construction of fortresses and the institution of quarantine shall be settled in conjunction with the Sultan; that the Porte shall abstain from all interference with the internal affairs of the Principalities, unless in the case of any fundamental statute being broken; that all religious confessions shall enjoy equal liberty and protection in the Principalities; that strangers shall be allowed to possess landed property in Wallachia and Moldavia on the same terms as the natives by submitting to the laws; that the capitulation tax shall be abolished; that monopolies shall be radically suppressed; and that a Provisional, or Kaimakanian, Government shall forthwith be established for the purpose of administering the affairs of the Principalities until the Hesopodars are elected.

"I have just been informed," says the Paris correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge*, "that Ali Pacha has received a telegraphic despatch from Constantinople, announcing that after a meeting of the Grand Council the dismissal of the Hesopodars of Wallachia and Moldavia was decided upon, and an Ottoman Commissary appointed. The Porte has selected Safet Efendi for the latter post; he is Mustachar of the Grand Vizier, or Minister of the Interior. The Kaimakans to be appointed by the Porte are said to be the Ban Prince Constantine Ghika, President of the High Court of Justice, for Wallachia, and the Grand Logothete Théodore Baïche, for Moldavia."

## AMERICA.

The slave trade is engaging the attention of the Washington Legislature. On the motion of Mr. Humphrey Marshall, the Committee on Foreign Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of declaring the engagement of American vessels in the Chinese coolie trade to be illegal and a sufficient cause of forfeiture to the captors of the ship engaged therein. It was also resolved, on the motion of Mr. Pringle, of New York, that the President be requested to communicate what information he may possess in regard to citizens of the United States being engaged in the slave trade, or the transportation in American ships of coolies from China to Cuba and other countries, with the intention of placing or continuing them in a state of slavery or servitude, and whether such traffic is not, in his opinion, a violation of the spirit of existing treaties, rendering those engaged in it liable to indictment for piracy; and especially that he be requested to communicate to the House the facts and circumstances attending the shipment from China of some five hundred coolies in the Sea Witch, of New York, a vessel lately wrecked on the coast of Cuba.—In the District Court of New York, Judge Ingersoll has condemned the schooner Falmouth, together with her cargo, to be sold as a slave.

From Canada, we learn that a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry has been rejected. The ice is breaking at Montreal. The gas works have been blown up.

The New York money market continues buoyant, and trade, for the most part, is prosperous.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE QUEEN AT ALDERSHOTT.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert arrived at Aldershot on the afternoon of Friday week, and, having inspected the troops, passed the night in a pavilion which had been erected for them on the field. The review took place on the following day, when the whole Aldershot army was present, divided into four brigades. The *Times* reports that "the Queen, who arrived on the ground shortly after eleven o'clock, was attended by a brilliant suite and staff, among whom were Viscount Hardinge, Sir Frederick Smith, R.E., General Knollys, Brigadier-General Hutchinson, Colonel Grey, Lord Alfred Paget, and her Majesty's Lady in Waiting, the Countess of Desart. Her Majesty was mounted on a chestnut charger, and wore a dark riding-habit with the riband of the Garter, and across her left shoulder a sash of blue and gold. Her hat was decorated with a plume of military feathers. Prince Albert rode on her Majesty's left, the Duke of Cambridge on her right, and both wore the uniforms of general officers. The Princess Royal and the Princess Alice followed in an open carriage drawn by four grey horses." Operations were brought to rather a premature conclusion by the weather, which threatened rain. The Earl of Cardigan, attended by Captain Low, was on the ground in the uniform of his regiment, but, though continually in the proximity of the Court, was not observed to join the Royal party.

THE CAMP AT COLCHESTER.—Prince Albert, on Monday, visited the camp at Colchester, and inspected the troops stationed there under the command of Major General Gascoigne. The town was gaily adorned with triumphal arches, flags, &c. Having been received at the Town-hall, where the Recorder read an address, his Royal Highness visited the camp, and afterwards proceeded to Wavenhoe Park, the property of Mr. Guerdon Rebow, where the troops were reviewed. The day was universally observed as a holiday by the people of Colchester.

DEPARTURE OF THE RUSSIAN PRISONERS FROM LEWES.—The prisoners of war who have been confined in the Lewes war prison since the autumn of 1854, departed on Friday week on board the *Impératrice*. They numbered 326, including fifteen officers. Twenty-five of the former have died since their captivity; but among the officers there have been no deaths. Six men remain in hospital, under the care of the medical officer. The town band escorted the released captives to the vessel; and there was much cheering among the numerous spectators. A complimentary letter from the officers to the constables of the borough has been published. It speaks in high terms of the kind treatment experienced by the writers and their comrades.

THE PURCHASE SYSTEM IN THE ARMY.—All hope of admission into the army without purchase is done away with by a letter which, under the date of "Horse Guards, April 16th," has been addressed by Colonel Yorke to candidates for commissions. The principal portions of this letter are as follow:—"Sir,—I am directed by the General Commanding-in-Chief to desire that you report yourself at the office of the Governor of the Royal Military College at Sandhurst at ten o'clock on the morning of the 22d inst., for the purpose of undergoing a further examination in Latin or French and algebra. You are, however, distinctly to understand that, in the event of your passing satisfactorily, that circumstance will give you no claim to be appointed to a commission before it may come to your turn in reference to your standing with other candidates on the list; but the General Commanding-in-Chief will be happy to

bring you forward if you can purchase, when he can do so consistently with his other engagements. You are required to produce to the College authorities a certificate of confirmation." Then follows a postscript:—"I beg to observe that, in the event of your passing the examination at Sandhurst, no hope can be given you of an appointment to a commission unless you are prepared to purchase, upwards of two hundred and fifty gentlemen, who have passed, still remaining unprovided for. Commissions without purchase do not suffice to provide for officers of Militia who bring men for the Line, and must first be provided for, and considerable reductions of officers in a great number of regiments may be expected."

WRECK OF THE BARK BLAKE, OF LIVERPOOL.—This vessel has been wrecked not far from Bermuda. The greater number of the crew were saved, but endured terrible sufferings from cold and want of food and water. They were obliged to resort to the horrible alternative of eating the dead bodies of their comrades; and a writer, who was one of the sufferers, says:—On the seventh day, without anything to eat, I caught a half-drowned rat, which I immediately cut up and shared out to each: *it was a delicious morsel*." After being more than once disappointed, the crew were picked up by a passing vessel. They had been floating about seventeen days.

## LOST IN A COAL PIT.

A SINGULAR and very alarming accident lately befell Mr. Howard Simcox, a Birmingham surveyor. He had been to collect the rents of some estates at Bilston, a few miles distant; and, missing a certain train on his return, he beguiled the time which would intervene before the departure of another train by taking a walk in the neighbourhood. When he thought of once more seeking the railway station, it was dusk, and he inconsiderately took a short cut across a piece of waste land, when suddenly he found himself falling down a coal-shaft. "Fortunately," says the *Manchester Guardian*, "there was a chain hanging down the pit at the time. At that he clutched, and succeeded in breaking his fall; but he had not sufficient strength to raise himself up, and, getting exhausted, he was compelled to let the chain slip through his hands and go down, he knew not where, nor whether the chain to which he clung might not reach only half way to the bottom. As the chain ran through his hands, they were lacerated in a horrible manner; some of his nails were torn off, his legs were wounded, and his trousers ripped into shreds. The chain, however, did reach to the bottom of the shaft, some thirty or forty yards beneath the surface, where he fell with a heavy shock which sprained his ankle, and for the time rendered him insensible. On recovering consciousness, he endeavoured to make himself heard by shouting and rattling the chain; but the place was lonely and unquieted, and no aid was afforded to him." For three days and nights, he remained in this dismal subterranean prison, though he frequently repeated his cries and his shaking of the chain. Some water had collected at the bottom of the shaft, with which he slaked his thirst; but he suffered greatly from hunger. Still, he never despaired; and, on the Thursday afternoon following the Monday on which he fell down the hole, his cries were heard by a boatman on an adjacent canal, and he was rescued. He lies in some danger, but it is thought he will recover.

Another incident, of a very similar nature, excepting in the more speedy release of the sufferer, is reported by the *Carlisle Patriot* as having occurred at the Wellington Colliery, Whitehaven. "A man named Joseph Reid, who for several years has discharged the duties of banksman, was in the act of removing a full basket of coals from the cage, and replacing an empty one, when a portion of the basket caught his clothes, and he was flung head foremost into the shaft. With great presence of mind, he seized hold of the stationary rope, against which he was thrown, and this, to some extent, checked his momentum. He grasped the rope firmly in his arms, but continued to slide down a distance of about twenty fathoms before he was able completely to arrest his descent; and the friction of the rope not only wore away his clothes, but even the skin and a portion of the flesh from the inside of his arms. Still he held on, and when he succeeded in bringing himself to a standstill, he managed to twist his legs round the rope, which in some measure relieved his arms; but he was unable to reverse his position. Prompt measures were taken to release him, though at that time little hope was entertained of saving his life. On the engine being set in motion, a new danger awaited him, which was that of being brought in contact with the descending basket. This, however, he escaped, and was safely brought to the surface, with his feet uppermost."

## OUR CIVILISATION.

## CAUGHT AT LAST.

THREE brothers—John Ingram Owen, George Smith Owen, and Edward Owen—who have eluded the police for nearly two months, have at length been apprehended and brought before the Marlborough-street magistrate on various charges of forgery. The adventures of these men form a remarkable chapter in the history of fraud.

Some years ago, their father was in extensive business at Shrewsbury as a woollen-draper, but he failed, and it was on this bankruptcy that the superstructure of forgery was afterwards raised. The first case of forgery traced to the prisoners was on Messrs. Coutts and Co. for six hundred pounds, by the prisoner Edward, who, through his sister, became acquainted with the handwriting of a lady who kept cash at Coutts's. This took place about eighteen or twenty months ago. The police were sent in pursuit of the forger; they traced him by railway to Kingston, and then into a hackney brougham, when they lost him. One of the prisoners gave out that he had just returned with a large fortune from Australia. He had cards printed, giving his address at Peel River, Australia, and he announced that he had returned to England for the sole purpose of paying all his father's creditors in full. With cheques prepared beforehand, one or the other of the brothers waited on the creditors in succession, and by a plausible story succeeded in disarming suspicion and inducing the creditors to take the cheques, which were always for a larger amount than the debt, and to give their own cheques for the difference. In most instances, these good cheques were made the foundation for larger forgeries, and in this way considerable sums were obtained from various bankers in the metropolis and in the country. Two "detectives" were set on their track, and telegraphic messages to the police of country towns were continually being sent; for the brothers would seem to have made it part of their system to pass rapidly from one place to another, honouring each locality with some fresh transaction in the way of fraud. The London police, however, knew that they would sooner or later return to their old haunt, a certain public-house in the Haymarket; and ultimately they were all arrested at a tavern in Clerkenwell. Edward began talking gibberish, under pretence of being a foreigner, and Ingram endeavoured to escape; but they were all secured.

As a proof of the dexterity of the brothers, it may be stated that a hot pursuit was once set on foot by a victim who recognised one of the brothers in Tottenham-court-road. The mob chased a man with long black hair, beard, and moustachios, wearing a brown wide-awake, into a public-house which has an entrance back and front. They suddenly missed him, and, while debating the matter, a tall, bald-headed, whiskerless person passed through the midst. This was the very man of whom they were in pursuit, as was discovered a moment or two afterwards by finding wig, whiskers, moustachios, and wide-awake, under one of the seats in the public-house.

**HOTEL THIEVES.**—Three Americans have been apprehended—two at Manchester and one at Liverpool—on charges of having committed various hotel robberies at both those towns, as well as at London. The names of the men taken at Manchester are Oscar Kingston and Daniel E. Branch. They have been committed for trial. The other man, Allen Howard, who was seized on board a Liverpool steamer, shortly before starting for America, has been remanded and sent up to London, as the greater number of his depredations were perpetrated there. In the Manchester hotel where Kingston and Branch were taken into custody, the police discovered some ingenious instruments for facilitating the pursuits of the accused. One of these is an instrument, entirely of steel, in the form of a mortising chisel, well adapted to cut out a panel, unscrew the hinges of a box, or prise open a door. The other is in the form of a pair of pliers, the two ends of which, when pressed together, form a barbed, employed to lay hold of the end of a key, and turn it in the lock; so that, supposing a door to be locked inside, and the key left in the lock, the person having these pliers in his possession would be able to turn the key from the outside, and on leaving the room could relock the door without the necessity of removing the key. Among the luggage of Branch was found a formidable instrument used by thieves in New York, and termed a "knuckle-duster." It is a thick, flat piece of metal, about three-quarters of a pound in weight, with holes at one of the edges through which the four fingers of the hand can be passed. When put on for use, and the fingers clinched over it, the larger portion of the metal fills the fist, while the outer edge presents four rings of solid metal over the knuckles of the second joints of the fingers, calculated to give powerful effect to a blow struck by the wearer. All the men are supposed to belong to a gang of very accomplished thieves who have recently been travelling through Europe, and who have effected several robberies in France.

**THE ESCAPED CONVICT, THOMAS HIBONS.**—This man, whose escape from Portsmouth prison was noticed in last week's *Leader*, has been recaptured. On the night of his escape, he committed a burglary in the neighbourhood of the gaol; then took the rail to Oxfordshire, rummaged the shops of two carpenters, and stole a saw, with which he cut out the window-frame of a grocer's shop, and carried off clothes and money. He then committed several other burglaries in rapid succession; and, in the course of one of these, at an inn at Hatton, was nearly caught. He had ransacked the bedroom, and was descending by the outer wall, when his foot struck a pane of glass in one of the lower rooms. Some men were here assembled drinking, and, surprised by the breaking glass, they ran out and gave chase, but

missed the perpetrator. After the committal of another burglary, he was pursued by the police on horseback, and caught. He glories in his escapes, and says no prison can hold him.

**Mrs. ELIZA M'NAIR** has been committed for trial on the charge of defrauding the East India Company detailed in our last week's paper.

**SUPPOSED CASE OF POISONING.**—The adjourned inquest, respecting the death of Mrs. Catherine Ashmall, at Burntwood, near Lichfield, Staffordshire, has terminated in a verdict stating that the deceased died from natural causes. Some particulars of the case recently appeared in the *Leader*. It will be recollected that, in consequence of some suspicions that Mrs. Ashmall had been poisoned, the body was exhumed. The inquest in the first instance was adjourned, in order that there might be an analysis of the intestines. The report of the analysis which was made by Professor Taylor was read on Monday. It stated that no trace of poison had been discovered, and it appeared, from medical and other testimony, that Mrs. Ashmall had been ill for some time previous to her death.

**BUTTER FROM STONES.**—It was Swift, if we mistake not, who, ridiculing the bubble undertakings which sprang up about the "South Sea" time, proposed, among other things, to obtain "butter from beech-nuts"; but it remained for the villainous ingenuity of modern trade to discover butter in flint-stones. Shakespeare speaks of "sermons in stones"; the adulterator finds something far more profitable. "Butter" says the *Doncaster Gazette*, "is adulterated with flint-stones. This wicked fraud is especially practised in the low kinds of butter usually sold in large manufacturing towns to the poorer and industrious population. The flint-stones are ground and then chemically manipulated, until they are reduced into a soluble substance, which is known by the denomination of 'soluble silica.' When this latter preparation is dissolved in water, it becomes a stiff gelatinous body, somewhat resembling strong jelly. This jelly is mixed to a considerable extent with butter of low quality, to which fresh salt and colouring matter are added. The product of this villainous adulteration is a compound which resembles a very good-looking dairy-butter."

**EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.**—Some revelations of the relative position of workmen and masters at Nottingham came out recently in an action brought in the Court of Exchequer by a Mr. Atkin, a lace-manufacturer, against William Hind, a Nottingham bill-sticker, for slander. In consequence of a disagreement about wages, Mr. Atkin, in the course of last May, dismissed two of his workmen. A certain society existed, called "The Committee of the Union," the members of which sent to Mr. Atkin, and told him that he must take back the two men, or they would not allow any one to work for him. He refused; on which (according to the statement for the prosecution) they beat his men, insulted himself and his wife in the streets, and employed so much intimidation that he could hardly obtain any workpeople. They then issued defamatory placards; and one of these, imputing to Mr. Atkin base and nefarious conduct, malignity, lying, and meanness, was posted (as the prosecution alleged) by Hind. A false name and address of the printer was appended to this document. Mr. Atkin, suspecting Hind, endeavoured to draw him into a confession. "I gave him several glasses of ale," said the plaintiff in his evidence. "When he had taken the third, I thought him ready for examination." Hind, however, denied that he had posted the bill in question; and this was his defence in the action. On that occasion, he brought forward another bill-sticker, who swore that he had himself posted the obnoxious placard; but Hind admitted that he (Hind) had posted up some previous bills libelling Mr. Atkin, and that he was paid to do so, though he did not know by whom. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff; damages, 150*l.* Hind was defended at the expense of the Working Man's Association.

**A STRANGE GENTLEMAN AND A STRANGE BUTLER.**—A Mr. John Brown, lately a butler in the service of Sir Walter Stirling, Bart., at Bruswood, near Groombridge, has brought an action against that gentleman for an assault. The butler was out till half-past two, A.M., on the night of the 26th of last December, disporting himself in Christmas fashion at the Crown Inn. He had not obtained leave to be out, and he therefore tapped at the hall window to rouse John, the footman. While thus employed, a window on the first floor was thrown open, and Sir Walter looked out with a gun in his hand. Showering (as it is said) very abusive and filthy language at the butler, he discharged the gun, which was fortunately only loaded with powder and paper. He then threw the weapon at the festal Brown, and inflicted a severe wound. As a consequence, the butler quitted his place; but Sir Walter refused to give him a character. The present action was therefore brought. The assault was not denied; but it was urged that Sir Walter meant nothing more than to intimidate his servant, as a punishment for stopping out so late. It was also shown that Brown's character was not without some previous drawbacks of a similar character; but he obtained a verdict—damages, 50*l.* They had been laid at 1000*l.*

**DISORDERLY WOMEN.**—Three women—Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Malcolm, and Mrs. Preston—have been charged at Westminster with making a disgraceful disturbance at

the house of Mr. Protheroe, formerly M.P. for Bristol, in Eccleston-square, Pimlico. Mr. Perkins charged Mr. Protheroe with casting her off, after having kept her as his mistress for a long time; and the other woman heroically took her part. Mr. Protheroe, however, who is about eighty years of age, denied that the fair one had any claim on him; and she and her devoted adherents were bound over in various amounts to keep the peace.

**ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.**—A man named Francis, living at Runcorn, near Manchester, inflicted a desperate gash on his wife's throat, under pretence of kissing her, in a boat; then cut his own throat in several places, and again attacked the woman. Assistance arrived, and both were rescued. They had been drinking together at a public-house, and had quarrelled.

**AN IRISH ROW.**—Two Irish labourers named John and Dennis Harrington, were charged at the Thames police court with having committed a murderous assault on a woman named Mary Lynch, and also with wounding her husband and son. The two prisoners had been out enjoying themselves all last Sunday night, and, about four o'clock on Monday morning, they invited their neighbour Lynch, with his wife and son, to have some drink with them. The invitation was accepted, and the revelry went on for some time. At length, however, the Irishmen wantonly attacked Lynch and his family; they knocked the old man down and kicked him, and afterwards assaulted the son who interfered to protect his father. The one, however, who suffered most from the violence of the ruffians, was Mrs. Lynch. On coming to the assistance of her husband and son, she was beaten by Dennis Harrington on the head and shoulders with a poker, the blows being inflicted with such force that in a very little time she was covered with blood. While she was endeavouring to staunch her wounds with a cloth, John Harrington flung a heavy brick at her head, which knocked her down insensible. She was taken to the London Hospital, where she lies in dangerous condition, and it is feared that she cannot recover. Mr. Yardley remanded the prisoners until the result of the woman's injuries should be known.

**BURGLARY.**—A man named Lundy, was charged at the Worship-street police office with having broken into the house of Mr. Humphry Clare, Buttesland-street, Hoxton. Mr. Clare went to bed on Sunday night, leaving his sister up, who retired to rest some hours later, and lay awake until two o'clock in the morning. She then heard a noise outside the door of her room, and presently afterwards saw a man enter with a candle in his hand. At first, she mistook him for her brother, and therefore called to him by name, upon which the man put out his light, and rapidly made his exit. Suspecting then that the intruder was a thief, Miss Clare alarmed her brother and the other inmates, who pursued the burglar, but he had contrived meanwhile to escape at the back of the house. A policeman was called, who traced the man by the marks of his naked feet through the back gardens of several houses, until at length he discovered the fugitive secreted in an outhouse not far distant, with his shoes and stockings off. Another charge of burglary was brought forward against the prisoner by a lady in court, who identified an overcoat which he wore as belonging to her husband. He was remanded for a week on the two charges.

**GREAT ROBBERY OF PICTURES.**—A robbery was effected on Sunday night, about ten o'clock, at the premises of Messrs. Naybour and Co., Oxford-street. Pictures by old and modern masters, to the value of 1500*l.*, were carried off.

**"AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN."**—Lieutenant Thomas Anderson, of the 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons, has been charged at the Canterbury police office with assaulting a young man named Steer, foreman to Mr. Martin, butcher, who contracts for the regiment. There had been some complaint about the meat; a board of officers condemned it; and Steer demanded that it should be sealed. Colonel M'Queen promised that this should be done; but, in the mean while, Lieutenant Anderson ordered Steer to take it away, and, in the hearing of his men, observed, "If I were the men I would tie you up to yonder beam, and give you twenty lashes every time you brought such d—d stuff for them to eat." He afterwards struck Steer on the neck with his whip; and the man was subsequently assaulted and ducked by the soldiers. The particular offenders, however, he could not identify. The defence was that Steer was insolent. Lieutenant Anderson was fined 30*s.* and costs.

**A GENTLEMAN SWINDLER.**—Henry Harris, generally known as Lieutenant or Captain Harris, and an officer in the German Legion, has been committed for trial on several charges of obtaining money by false cheques. An attempt was made to show that he was insane.

**ATTEMPTED CHILD MURDER.**—A young woman, about twenty years of age, who was recently confined with a male child at the Manchester Union, has attempted to kill the infant by placing it in a ditch full of water. The child was rescued only just in time to save its life. The mother, though of good family, has had another illegitimate child before the present.

**DEAD DRUNK.**—A Mr. Jones, a gentleman, about fifty years of age, residing in Store-street, Bedford-square, was found, a few evenings ago, in Tottenham Court-road, in so helpless a state of intoxication that he

was taken to the hospital, where the stomach-pump was used, and he was cupped and electrified, but all to no effect, for he continued in a comatose condition, and his life is placed in imminent danger.

**CHILD-STRIPPING.**—Alfred Moor, a mendicant youth of sixteen, who has been once before convicted of child-stripping, is under remand at Lambeth, charged with the same offence. He stripped two children of their coats and boots. One of them, in consequence, caught a severe cold, which resulted in an abscess in the ear, and the mother, through fright at the prolonged absence of her child, was attacked with a dangerous disease.

**ROBBERY.**—George King, a police-constable, Alfred Brackley, William Castles, David Thomas, and Joseph Seelye—the latter four in the service of Messrs. Pickford and Co., the well-known carriers—have been committed for trial, charged with having been concerned in stealing property to the value of nearly 400*l.*, consisting of gold watches, plate, &c.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

**MANUFACTURES.**—The reports from the manufacturing towns of the state of trade during the week ending last Saturday, are all satisfactory. At Manchester there has been an increased business, advancing prices constituting the only check to the extent of operations. At Birmingham, the iron-market shows continued steadiness, and the general occupations of the place have been fairly sustained. The Nottingham adviser describes a large export demand for hosiery, which has caused a further reduction of the already moderate stocks, although purchases on home account have been limited. In lace, the transactions have not been numerous, but prices are high and firm. In the woollen districts there has been a good average business, and the market at the close presented an encouraging appearance. The Irish linen trade gives continued signs of animation, the home consumption and the orders from America being alike active at full quotations.—*Times*.

A strike of great magnitude, and of a very alarming character, has occurred among the Scotch colliers. The wages of the men (says a communication from Glasgow) were advanced from 4*s.* to 5*s.* per day last autumn. Recently, the employers, or at least the great majority of them, intimated their intention to bring back the wages to the old standard, and this the colliers have resisted with almost equal unanimity. The men state that coal and iron maintain their former rate of price, while the masters aver, on the other hand, that at the wages of 5*s.* per day they were producing coal and iron at a loss. This state of matters has led to a strike over all the western counties of Scotland, and it is thought that nearly 80,000 men are now idle from this cause. The masters are meeting the resistance by blowing out their furnaces. Already about twenty per cent. are out of blast, and they threaten to extinguish the whole of them. A few hundreds are working here and there—some at the reduced rate of 4*s.*, and others at the old rate of 5*s.* per day; but in the aggregate these numbers are trifling compared with those who are on strike. Hitherto the men have, generally speaking, conducted themselves in a quiet manner; but the authorities are taking measures to meet any disorder that may be threatened. Meanwhile, a detachment of 250 men of the 1st Lanarkshire Regiment of Militia was marched on Saturday from Hamilton to Airdrie, the centre of the strike; and the Commissioners of Lieutenantcy for the county of Lanark have served an order upon the yeomanry cavalry, both of the upper and lower wards, to hold themselves in readiness to support the civil authorities. These two regiments muster 500 sabres. A similar order has been sent to the members of the Glasgow Queen's Own.

The operative stonemasons of York have struck for an advance of wages, demanding 27*s.* per week instead of 24*s.* The master masons are determined to resist the advance.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE NATIONAL GALLERY.**—A picture by Mantegna, recently arrived from the Continent, is now added to the national collection. It represents the Virgin and Child, St. John the Baptist, and the Magdalen, and is supposed to have formed part of the pictorial spoils which were dispersed after the sack of Mantua in 1630.

**AN OBSCURE STORY.**—The *Times*' second column recently contained the annexed advertisement:—"That promised on the 7th and dated 10th January, reached your brother only on the 17th March. His suspense was great, but faith steadfast. All are safe to the 10th January. By the time you see this, there will be something awaiting you as before. Now safer than ever. Be vigilant, and look well within, for the meshes are weaving around you.—SIRELLA."

**THE ORIGINAL SCORE OF WEDER'S "OHRROX."**—It was supposed that this valuable original perished in the fire at Covent Garden Theatre; but the report now turns out to have been an error. The score was presented, not very long ago, by the only surviving son of the musician, to the Emperor of Russia.

**CHURCH AFFAIRS IN CANADA.**—Copies of extracts of recent correspondence on colonial church affairs, in the dioceses of Canada and Victoria, have been published on the motion of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P.

It appears from this correspondence that a determined effort has been made by the Church party in Canada to acquire and exercise the right of synodical action, since the passing of the Clergy Reserves Act, by which, as the Bishop of Toronto asserts, the Church has been deprived of all her property, her clergy merely retaining their stipends and allowances during their natural lives and incumbencies. A subdivision of the diocese of Toronto was also strongly urged upon the attention of the Home Government. A reply has been received from Mr. Labouchere, recommending the Canadian legislature to empower the members of the Church of England in the colony to meet and form representative bodies, with the power to frame rules which shall have so much of legal force as may be necessary. At the same time, the Colonial Secretary carefully disclaimed, on the part of the Home Government, any intention or desire of placing the Church of England in a privileged or exclusive position in Canada.

**QUACK POISONS.**—An action has been brought against Messrs. Startup and Brown, quack medicine dealers at Manchester. They had undertaken to cure a man named Holmes of some complaint, and had given him mercury in such large quantities that salivation ensued to an alarming extent, and the sufferer's mouth was in an incipient state of mortification. He obtained a verdict—damages, 80*s.*

**PONSONING OF THREE CHILDREN.**—Death has resulted to three children at Longbenton, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, apparently owing to a Mrs. Short, the wife of a labourer, administering to them, for the cure of a cutaneous disorder, a quantity of flour of sulphur.

**SEWAGE OF GREAT CITIES.**—A scheme is now under the consideration of Government, on the suggestion of a gentleman of Bristol, for the deodorisation and conversion of the sewage of large cities, by means of convict labour.

**REPRIEVE.**—The sentence of death passed at the late Devon and Suffolk assizes upon Mary Weeks and Emma Muzzett, both of whom were convicted of murdering their children, has been commuted to transportation for life. The sentences of death on Mary Ann Harris, found guilty of drowning her children at Uxbridge, and on Celestine Sommer, convicted of the murder of her daughter, have been respited during her Majesty's pleasure.

**SUFFOCATED IN A CESSPOOL.**—Two labouring men at Brighton have been suffocated in a cesspool, a drain connecting with which they were cleansing. A man who went to their rescue was overcome by the foul air; but he was drawn out alive. Another man, who was also working in the drain, was nearly poisoned; but he too survives.

**LORD CLARENCE ARRIVED IN LONDON** on Monday afternoon.

**METROPOLITAN RATE FOR HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.**—It has been proposed at some public meetings, held during the present week in various parts of the northern suburbs, to levy a rate of twopence in the pound on the whole of the metropolis, in order to secure Hampstead-heat.

**ST. JAMES'S PARK.**—The controversy with regard to St. James's Park has at length been brought to a conclusion. There is to be a road from the end of St. James's-street to Buckingham-gate. This road will be cut between Marlborough House and St. James's Palace. It will be carried along the paved road into the Mall, and so in front of the Palace to Buckingham-gate. The expense of making this road, including the removal of the German Chapel, will be 21,900*l.*, the chief portion of which sum will be expended in the removal of the building. The idea of bisecting the gardens with a carriage-road is definitely given up. There is, indeed, to be a bridge across the Ornamental Water, but for foot-passengers only. A road is to be opened from Waterloo-place to the Mall; but the Duke of York's column is to remain.

**HEALTH OF LONDON.**—The rate of mortality declines as the temperature rises with the beginning of the spring months. The deaths in London, which had been in the two previous weeks 1,284 and 1,115 respectively, fell last week to 1,048. In the corresponding weeks of the ten previous years, 1846-55, the average number was 1,051. The same rate of mortality in the present increased population would produce 1,156 and a comparison of the real with the estimated result, shows a difference in favour of last week to the extent of 113. The deaths of 569 males and 480 females were registered. Typhus is more fatal at present than any other disease in the epidemic class. It numbers 56 cases in the week. Eleven deaths occurred in the London Fever Hospital, all, except two, stated to be from that disease. Four seamen have died of typhus since the 9th inst., in the Dreadnought hospital ship. Hooping-cough carried off 39 children (almost half of whom were on the south side of the river), croup 14. Measles was fatal in 33 cases, scarlatina in 27, small-pox in 18. Four of the deaths from measles occurred in St. George's Infant Poor-house, Lewisham. Two children died of scarlatina at 78, Buttesland-street, Hoxton New-town; and another child is suffering from it. The attention of the medical officer of the district may be directed to the state of this house, the occupier of which complains of "the awful stench" arising from bad drains, to which cause he attributes the disease that destroyed his chil-

dren. Two boys died of choleraic diarrhoea, one in Brook-street, Holborn, the other in Clement Danes, in both cases after illness of short duration. Only eight cases of "diarrhoea" are returned. One person died of intemperance, another of destitution, and three from carbuncle. Last week, the birth of 928 boys and 904 girls, in all 1,832 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55, the average number was 1,519.—*From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.*

**THE SPIRIT-RAPPERS AND THE MISSING PACIFIC.**—An absurd statement appears in an American paper, called the *Spiritual Telegraph*, to the effect that a spirit-rapping medium foretold the loss of the Pacific; and that the same person has since given a detailed account of the event, which is said to have been caused by an iceberg in latitude 46 deg. north, on the night of January 29th. The catastrophe, it is added, resulted from the captain endeavouring to outstrip the Persia.

**COWS IN THE CITY.**—Dr. Lethaby, the City officer of health, calls attention in a recent report to the improvidence of keeping cows in the City. Pented up in narrow, ill-ventilated sheds, where the only change of position possible to them is to lie down or stand up, and surrounded by filth and ordure, they become affected with a species of consumption, "and the milk is more or less charged with diseased products." As a consequence, disease is engendered in those who drink the milk—especially in children. [We may add, from what we have ourselves observed, that some cow-sheds in the suburbs are not a whit better.]

**THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM.**—The Parliamentary Committee for inquiring into the operations of this system, and of the previous plan of transportation, met on Tuesday, when Mr. Frederick T. Elliott, Assistant-Secretary for the Colonies, gave it as his opinion that at the present time it would be impossible to establish a new penal settlement to receive convicts from England. He said he had no definite plan to offer as to how we should dispose of our convicts; that was a question for the committee.

**HERR STAUDIGL AND MADAME HEINEFETTER.**—The *Journal de Frankfort* says that Staudigl, the celebrated bass singer, has gone out of his mind. His intellect has been failing for a long time, and he has lately been removed to a lunatic asylum. The same journal says that Madame Heinefetter (who sang in the German operas with Staudigl in London) has died in a state of insanity, brought on by the loss of her fortune.

**THE ALLIANCE BAZAAR.**—Such a line suggests that the two nations are about to turn a penny by keeping stalls to pay off the war debts just incurred. It relates to a body calling itself a Maine-law Alliance, which gets into some sort of combat with a certain Alcholic "Russ." On Monday last they opened the Exchange-rooms, Manchester, to show and to sell sundry crockery-ware and calicoes, collected by zealous friends to all the funds of the said Alliance. By far the most attractive part of the Bazaar were the ladies who presided at the stalls. The other articles mostly consisted (if we except some matchless marmalade from Glasgow) of appeals to fashionable vanity for funds with which to put down "vice."

**SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY.**—A meeting presided over by the Earl of Shaftesbury, and convened by the Early Closing Association, was held at Exeter-hall on Thursday evening, for the sake of advocating a half-holiday on Saturdays for the operative classes generally, and the payment of wages on Fridays. Among the speakers, over and above the chairman, were the Bishop of Oxford, Sir S. M. Peto, Mr. Roundell Palmer, Mr. Cowan, M.P., the Rev. William Arthur, &c. A resolution in favour of the objects of the meeting, moved by the Bishop of Oxford, and another moved by Mr. Roundell Palmer, were carried by acclamation.

**PERSIA.**—The *Teheran Gazette* announces that the Persian Government, in order to maintain friendly relations with England, "has reserved to Mr. Stevens, English Consul at Teheran, the right to direct, as hitherto, the commercial affairs of English subjects in our capital, and has recognised at the same time the right of the British Consul at Tauris and Bender-Abouchir."

**CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION.**—This committee met yesterday at one o'clock, the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the chair. The Actuary of the Customs Assurances Fund was examined at considerable length, and entered into a statement of the rules laid down for insurances.

**THEATRICALS AT ALDERSHOTT.**—The officers of the different regiments have subscribed a day's pay towards getting up theatricals, and Lord Panmure has placed a building at their disposal for that purpose, and has given the handsome donation of 100*l.* towards a fund. The project has been taken up with much spirit by the officers, and it is expected to be most successful. The first performance was appointed to take place a night or two ago, and was announced to be under the especial patronage of Lieutenant-General Knollys. The entertainments were to be the musical burlettas of *The Sentinel*, and the farce of *To Paris and Back for Five Pounds*. A splendid ball is in preparation for the 9th of May, at which the élite of the country are expected to attend.

**CHARGE OF MUTINY AND MURDER.**—The packet-ship *Underwriter* recently arrived from Liverpool at

New York, and nine of her crew were arrested on a charge of mutiny at sea. Upon being questioned as to the alleged mutiny, they pleaded in extenuation that the first and third mates of the Underwriter had subjected them to most barbarous treatment on their voyage from Liverpool. One of the crew, they said, was so severely beaten that he died from the effects of the injuries he received. Upon these statements warrants of arrest were issued against William Welch, the first mate, and Thomas Keel, the third mate.—*New York Herald.*

DESPERATE BURGLARY IN DERBYSHIRE.—Thomas Jarvis, of Staveley, minor, has been charged at Ealington with being concerned, with seven other men, in a desperate burglary perpetrated at the house of Mr. Samuel Hodgkinson, farmer, of Beighton Fields, on the morning of Tuesday week. Jarvis was positively identified by George Needham, grandson of Mr. Hodgkinson, who stated that the wind blew Jarvis's veil on one side as he entered the bedroom, and afforded witness a full view of his face. The prisoner was admitted to bail on his own recognisances to the amount of 50*l.*, with two sureties in 25*l.* each.

## Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, April 26.

### LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### TICKETS OF LEAVE.

A CONVERSATION took place on the subject of tickets of leave, with reference to a discussion originated on a previous evening by the Marquis of SALISBURY and Earl STANHOPE. Earl GRANVILLE and the Marquis of LANSDOWNE now, on the part of the Government, stated that an inquiry by a Committee of the House of Commons being at the present time going on, it was thought advisable to wait the results of that Committee before moving in the matter.

##### THE ARRANGEMENTS AT THE NAVAL REVIEW.

EARL GRANVILLE stated at length all the arrangements which had been made by the Admiralty for accommodating the two Houses of Parliament at the Naval Review, and showed that the misfortunes which had been complained of were due only to the railway company.—Lord RAVENSWORTH accepted the apology, and the Marquis of CLANRICARDE urged that some Parliamentary power should be exercised over railway companies.

##### MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

The Earl of ST. GERMAINS moved the second reading of a bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister, and brought forward all the arguments which have been so often urged on this topic.—The Bishop of OXFORD moved the rejection of the bill in a very long and elaborate speech.—The measure was supported by the Earl of ALBEMARLE and Lord RAVENSWORTH, Earl GREY and the Earl of ELLESMERES, and opposed by Lord DUNGANSON, Lord CAMPBELL, the Bishops of CASHEL, St. DAVID's, and EXETER, and Lord CONGLETON.

On a division, there appeared—For the second reading, 24*j.* against it, 43.

The bill was therefore lost, and the House adjourned at ten minutes to twelve.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### THE FALL OF KARS.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE gave notice of an amendment to Mr. WHITESIDE's motion on the fall of Kars, the effect of which is to throw the whole blame on Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

On the motion for the adjournment of the House to Monday, Lord CLAUDE HAMILTON urged the propriety of making proper arrangements for keeping up the staff of the Militia.—Mr. LAYARD complained of inaccuracy in certain returns connected with the position of the Masters in the Navy.—Mr. BYNG commented on the impropriety of an exhibition of fireworks for the peace, when the Government had not announced any intention of observing a day of thanksgiving.—Sir GEORGE GREY, in reply to him, said that a thanksgiving day would be set apart as soon as the ratification of the peace had taken place.

##### TROOPS TO CANADA.

In answer to Mr. LAING, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the British troops about to be sent to Canada were only to replace those withdrawn for the war, and their whole number would be very little over 4000.

##### THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NAVAL REVIEW.

Sir CHARLES WOOD gave in detail an explanation, similar to that offered by Earl GRANVILLE in the Lords, of the causes which led to the disappointments and delays in the conveyance of the members of both Houses to the Naval Review.—Mr. NEWDEGATE, Sir W. JOLLIFFE, Mr. HAMILTON NISBET, and others, spoke, admitting that in the main the explanation with regard to the Admiralty was

satisfactory, and placing the blame on the South-Western Railway Company.—Mr. CHAPLIN (Chairman to the Company) expressed his regret for what had occurred, but said that no foresight or arrangement could have prevented what had happened, the delay having been caused solely by the accidental breaking of an engine attached to a train which immediately preceded that conveying the members of both Houses.—Mr. HURCHINSON (a director of the railway) confirmed this statement; and the discussion ended.

##### POLICE BILL.

The House then went into Committee on the County and Borough Police Bill. A long discussion took place on an amendment of Mr. HENLEY to the first clause, which involved one of the main principles of the Bill.

A division showed—For the amendment, 94; against it, 168; majority, 74.

No great progress was made with the other clauses, and further progress in committee was postponed.

The rest of the business was disposed of, and the House adjourned to Monday.

### THE RETURN OF THE ARMY.

We read in the Crimean correspondence in this day's *Times*:

"The preparations for the speedy evacuation of the Crimea are pressed on with rapidity and energy. Each division collects about 4000 shot a day, and they are carried to Balaklava as fast as the means at our disposal—railway and land transport—will permit. It is stated that 6000 Sardinians will be the first to leave, and the Guards will probably be the first English troops to quit the scene of their suffering, of their endurance, and of their glory. . . . There have been some unlawful expeditions made by sundry officers, from the rank of General downwards, across the Tchernaya to Mackenzie's Farm and the north forts. It is stated that passes will not be required for officers, and there has been a great deal of fraternising between the Russians and the English."

##### FRANCE.

The publication of the article in the *Constitutionnel* impeaching Espartero, has created great sensation among the Spaniards. *Le Nord* says that "the Spanish Minister has waited on the Minister of Foreign Affairs, with the view of complaining of the article, and making explanations in justification of Espartero and his colleagues. Count Walewski listened rather coldly to him.

An official note has been sent to all the Paris journals, stating that the London *Daily News*, and the Brussels journals, the *Independence* and the *Nord*, have published the Treaty of Peace; that this is an "indiscrétion coupable," and that the offenders will be sought out and punished.

Count Buol has left Paris, and has arrived at Vienna.

##### PRUSSIA.

M. Janken has demanded explanations from the commission charged with the affair of the stolen despatches. The reporters of the commission replied that their labours had been delayed in consequence of their not having been supplied with the necessary documents. Count Schwerin stated that he had another document to present on the matter.

THE CRIMEAN BOARD (YESTERDAY).—Colonel Tulloch read his reply yesterday (Friday); after which, Lord LUCAS requested that the Court might adjourn till Monday, to give him an opportunity of reading Colonel Tulloch's statement before making his own reply. This was granted; and the Judge-Advocate-General intimated that, on that day, if his lordship concluded his case in time, they would proceed at once with Lord Cardigan's.

THE ADULTERATION OF FOOD COMMITTEE also assembled yesterday. Mr. John Jackson, a miller, at Wakefield, was examined, and gave a very interesting account of the manner in which alum and composite matter is ground up by small millers with wheat, thereby adulterating the flour, for the purpose of giving it a better colour. He thought that recent exposures had done much good, and that millers in extensive business would not attempt to commit similar frauds, knowing that their whole stock would be liable to seizure at any time. He would recommend a wholesome inspection of all flour mills, that is, the appointment of a person who really understands what he is inspecting. Many of the persons who inspect flour do not know ground alum from flour, and know not the difference between Egyptian and English wheat. The rule for appointing inspectors ought to be men who understand what they are examining, instead of which incompetent persons are appointed, thereby leaving the door open for fraud.

MURDER OF A WIFE AND MOTHER AT RATCLIFFE.—Information was received yesterday by Mr. Baker, the Coroner, of the decease of Ann Clever, who was beaten to death by her husband (a dissipated waterman) and their son, the two ruffians being intoxicated at the time. An inquest will be held to-day.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. During the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to find room for correspondence, even the briefest.

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1856.

## Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—*Dr. ARNOLD.*

### THE TREATY.

THERE has been, since the commencement of the war, a popular as well as an official interpretation of its objects, in Russia no less than in England. In Russia the manifestos of NICHOLAS and ALEXANDER, appealing to the fanaticism and servility of the population, represented the conflict as one between the powers of light and darkness, in which the Czars would carry the Cross, brilliantly and victoriously, against a nation of infidels in alliance with the heretics of the West. This, with the assertion of a sacred mission, of invincible strength, and Christian constancy, was a species of rhodomontade conformable to the state of knowledge and feeling in the Russian Empire. In England, there was rhodomontade of another sort. Statesmen and journalists, who knew that the Allied Governments were contending for political points, not likely to be appreciated by the vast body of tax-paying individuals, addressed themselves to the half-selfish, half-generous enthusiasm of the public, invoked the names of Liberty and Civilisation, prophesied the approaching end of tyranny, and even suggested the downfall of Russia. A war of principles was announced, while every interest that represented a principle was carefully disavowed. In the mean while, however, the real objects of the war had been recorded in the diplomatic correspondence of the Cabinets. Russia had forcibly violated the Turkish frontier in support of certain claims which were resisted by Turkey, in conjunction with the Western Governments. The despatches of the French and British Ministers, so far as they have been published, clearly implied that the attack upon the Ottoman Empire would be repelled: that the Russian pretensions to a special sovereignty in the dominions of the Porte would be resented and must be withdrawn; that securities would be taken against further encroachments on her part along the line of the Danube or the Black Sea; that to enforce these concessions the Allied Powers would assail Russia on all her vulnerable frontiers; and that to avert the losses and dangers of a protracted war, Russia must submit to exist under the law of Europe, and give adequate proofs of her submission. This, as far as the substance of a heavy diplomatic portfolio can be presented in a paragraph, is the sense of all the communications forwarded to St. Petersburg from Paris and London. Similar principles were laid down more vaguely in the formal declaration of war. Subsequently, Austria announced a modified concurrence. The Emperor NICHOLAS maintaining his pretensions, explained them broadly, in answer to the ex-

postulations of the Allied Powers; but there was an essential difference between his policy and theirs. He designed, no doubt, to go as far as success would carry him; his enemies never contemplated the disruption or annihilation of his empire.

Interpreting the objects of the war, then, in the sense of the documents in which they were diplomatically explained, we find them represented in detail by the Treaty of Paris. The submission required of Russia has been exacted by force. Gaining not an inch of territory in Asia, compelled to relinquish a narrow border land on the Danube, her principal concession is that she acknowledges the right of the other Powers of Europe to control her policy when it affects the privileges of an independent state. It is this that gives the Treaty its importance; it is this that has been now, for the first time since the reign of CATHERINE, avowed by Russia.

For the reader's convenience we may analyse the Treaty of Paris, placing in order the stipulations that affect Russia, Turkey, the Principalities, Austria, and the Allies. Russia evacuates Kars and the Turkish territories occupied by her troops in Asia, consents to keep no ships of war in the Black Sea, to admit consuls to her Black Sea ports, to construct no military maritime arsenals upon the coast, to surrender the mouths of the Danube, to rectify positively and materially her Bessarabian frontier, to claim no exclusive protectorate of the Christians, not to interfere, under any pretext, in the territories of the Porte, unless under the sanction of the other contracting Powers, and, in the north, to discontinue her menacing preparations at the Aland Isles. These are palpable concessions, diametrically in contradiction to the policy of PETER, CATHERINE, and NICHOLAS, which the Emperor ALEXANDER declared himself resolved to develop. Their policy was to acquire incessantly, and never to surrender. For the present, at least, Russia recoils.

The Porte makes no concessions to Russia. It has constructed a programme of reform, which has been communicated to the contracting Powers, but the Treaty gives the Powers no right to interfere to enforce the adoption of the reform. The Porte engages to keep no war navy afloat in the Black Sea; but, except to resist the navy of Russia, it has not attempted within the present century to enlarge its armaments, or to build new fortifications. The submission implied in this and the collateral clauses is entirely on the part of Russia. The rectification of the Bessarabian frontier, on the other hand, is in the nature of a positive triumph on the part of Turkey. The war was begun by the invasion of her frontier. Not only has her frontier been defended and secured, but it has been pushed back into the territories of the invading power. The extent of the modification makes little difference in the moral value of the result.

The Principalities remain unsettled. A Commission, representing the contracting Powers, is to be assembled, not to establish, but to propose a constitution, the final form of which is to be arranged at Paris between the Turkish, Russian, Austrian, and Western Governments. It is understood that the opinion of the Wallachian and Bulgarian representatives is to be considered in the organisation of the Danubian Principalities. A question is here involved of a distinct and important character, which we must reserve for separate examination. The principle laid down by the Treaty is, however, that when once the government of the Principalities has been settled on a recognised basis, it cannot be modified by the Porte, or by any

other Power, independently, and that armed interventions can only take place under the general sanction.

The foreign troops in occupation of the Turkish territories, Russian, French, British, Austrian, Sardinian, are to be withdrawn with the least possible delay. Thus, Austria, though she has gained by the limitations imposed on Russian influence on the Danube—which is henceforth to be a free highway—has not gained the object of her ambition in the Principalities, and will be forced to leave Bucharest, which has been the centre of her intrigues and her brutalities. Neither of the Western nations has desired, from the beginning, to retain a territorial hold on the Russian or Ottoman dominions, but by both advantages have been secured—in the liberty of appointing consuls at all the ports of the Black Sea, and of stationing two light-armed vessels at the mouths of the Danube. Morally, it is an advantage to them that they have so far reversed the political conditions of the East, that the Ottoman Empire, which was previously, along its southern and western frontiers, the debatable ground of Austrian and Russian cupidity, is now placed under general guarantees, and associated with the diplomatic system of Europe. In the East, no successes have been attained by any of the contending Powers. The rectification in the Turkish and Russian boundaries is to be mutual, and will probably result in the selection of a natural instead of an artificial frontier, involving an exchange of equivalent territories.

So ends the war with Russia. The Treaty is a settlement of the local question raised by the pretensions of the Emperor NICHOLAS, and of the diplomatic question involved in the refusal of Russia to submit to the public law of the civilised world. It would be another and a different thing to say that the Peace of Paris terminates the troubles of Europe. The Peace that results from international justice and amity, and from the desire of free and liberal states to extend their industrial and commercial relations, cannot be established by Treaty while the populations of nearly all the Continent await a general change, to which they will at last force their way, statesmen and diplomacy notwithstanding.

#### THE WALEWSKI PLOT.

COUNT WALEWSKI's address to the Congress at Paris, sketching out a grand combination of European Governments to arrange the affairs of the Continent, claims our attention not more on account of the schemes which it implies in the French Government, than on account of the position of our own Government. What share have our Ministers in those projects? What influence have they been exercising to counteract the WALEWSKI interest in the councils of the Emperor NAPOLEON? What position have they taken to identify our Government with the popular interests of the European nations? What have they done to place the Government in strict accordance with the opinions and wishes of the English people? We are unable to answer any of these questions. We can more easily give some information respecting the condition of foreign Governments than of our own; and if we have come out of the Russian war without the disasters that we might have apprehended, we have no guarantee whatever that there will not be a great set-off against us in the sequel of that war.

Count WALEWSKI's project appears to have resulted from gathering up the proposals of Sardinia, Naples, and Austria, with an eye to projects long since entertained amongst the adherents of LOUIS NAPOLEON, but sup-

posed to have been laid aside. We do not infer from his plan that he intends to induce his Imperial master to follow out the policy of King VICTOR EMMANUEL in Italy, and to promote reforms by open combination with the Governments of England and Piedmont, and in concert with influential men throughout Italy. On the contrary, we infer that he intends to compromise between that just policy and some convenience for the Pope, some convenience for Naples, and some for the Austrian Government. His language implies a determination to attack the Kingdom of Belgium. This is an old project. When LOUIS NAPOLEON ascended the Imperial throne by a military *coup d'état*, and at the same time, sword in hand, asked the people whether they would vote for his Empire, "Yes or no?" a project was also on foot for occupying Belgium with an army, and asking that independent kingdom whether it would be annexed to the Empire, "Yes or no?" That was before the days of the alliance with Queen VICTORIA; it was when LOUIS NAPOLEON thought of a combination with the Absolutist monarchs. He has since been in alliance with Queen VICTORIA, he has used the English alliance, he has gained a footing amongst the Imperial potentates of the world, and now his Foreign Secretary throws out a hint that unless King LEOPOLD will legislate in accordance with the dictate of the Emperor NAPOLEON's Minister he may be coerced by French arms?

What part are our Ministers taking? From the reply of Lord CLARENCE to Lord CLANRICARDE in the House of Lords, on Thursday, we infer that our Government is not prepared to take its stand with Piedmont in maintaining the right of constitutional reform throughout Italy, and in procuring the retreat of Austria from the territories that she has occupied; but that he continues to recognise the right of Austria to keep down populations of Italy beyond its own territory, and to ignore representations except those which reach him through official channels.

Our present purpose, however, is to show that whatever delusions may be put upon our statesmen by foreign schemers, we, the English people, have no kind of security. We are kept completely in the dark. If our Ministers succeed, it is so much the better for us; but they never tell us what they are at till it is all over. If any representative of the English people insists upon knowing what the "servants" of the English people are doing, he is encountered with sneers and contempt, as going beyond his place. For in this country we have suffered the possession of Government and of its approaches to fall entirely into the hands of cliques, who have an understanding with each other, and who keep out the uninitiated.

This goes to the extent of keeping out members even of the ruling classes, who will not fall in with the plans of the day. The case of Lord ELGIN is an example. He was lately offered the post of Governor of Victoria. It is possible that the offer was well meant on the part of Mr. LABOUCHERE, otherwise it might almost be accounted an insult to a man who has been Governor-General of Canada; who has succeeded in placing our North American colonists, as well as the Empire, in the best of relations with the United States; who has displayed a practical, a bold, and successful statesmanship under novel circumstances; and who did so in actual contact with a proud, an active, and an independent people. When he returned to this country, Lord ELGIN had a right to expect, as a matter of course, that in the advent of any Liberal party to power he would be offered a post in the Government—a conspicuous place in the Cabinet. If no such

offer was made to him, it was to exclude from the public service a man who had a right to take a leading post, and to deprive the public of one of those servants whose value has been attested. We do not know by what rule Lord ELGIN was excluded from office; for there is some rule, though it is not stated in any statute, and is perhaps nowhere to be found in words. It is an understanding that certain men who agree together shall assist each other in turn to take the governing places, and keep out those who are not initiated in their freemasonry. The effect is, that at the present day some of the most useful men are kept out of the public service, and appear to be altogether thrust aside from politics. Men who give voice to the strongest opinions, the most distinct wishes, and the keenest anxieties of the public, are exactly those who are not permitted to take charge of the public interests. We might run up a long list of those who have evinced the strongest sincerity in their convictions — ELGIN to begin with, NEWCASTLE, COBDEN, ROEBUCK, LAYARD, and others, who would make a list at least as various as this. To think of any of these men coming into office just now would be almost a joke.

The ignorance is not *quite* reciprocal. If the English people are totally ignorant what their official governors are doing, the official governors are not altogether ignorant of the movements of the English people; they industriously know *the worst*. For again their channels of information are those by which they obtain information of foreign affairs. They know nothing about the people from the people. They are perfectly informed of the movements of their own class in foreign countries and in this. The MALMESBURY or PALMERSTONS know what the METTERNICHES or BUOL-SCHAUENSTEINS, the NESSEL-NODES or GORTSCHAKOFFS, the BOURQUENEYS or WALEWSKIS are doing. They also have a machinery by which they learn what a particular class of men can observe. The leaders of the Republican party are in the habit of comforting themselves with the idea that they succeed in evading the spies of Governments, foreign and domestic; we believe that there is no delusion greater. We have strong reasons for supposing that the chief heads of the Republican party are known, are watched, are permitted to pass unmolested by the spies of Austria, Russia, France, and of Governments supposed to be more constitutional, for the very purpose of concealing the fact of the espionage, and of keeping up those little republican irritations which justify Austrian occupations. The bureaucratic order, therefore, on the Continent and in England, is perfectly informed on all movements that spies can observe. But what do spies ever learn? What are they capable of learning respecting the opinions, the feelings, the purpose of any people?

It is the same at home. There is not a meeting of the people which is held at which numbers of the police are not present in plain clothes, taking notes of the proceedings. The professional statesmen, therefore, know *as much as they can learn through policemen and spies*, respecting the conduct of the people.

All this, we repeat, is strictly by the sufferance of the people themselves. The people never possess any immunities which they do not *take*. When they waited for "the Charter" to give them the suffrage, they reversed every proceeding by which our national constitution was framed. The rights which were recorded in Magna Charta were *taken* by the people, before they were recorded; and they were *retaken* by the people, because that Charter was powerless itself to maintain

rights by the mere force of writing on parchment. While the English people leave it all to official managers, official managers will exclude the people, and laugh at any individuals who pretend to intrude upon the authorised departments. While the different classes and circles of the English people remain separate, there will be no means of recovering the control that a constitutional state ought to possess over its own public servants; and nothing, we are convinced, will be done in this country, until individuals, who feel that they have the interest of their country at heart, who are conscious of the courage to begin a great action, confer with each other and act in concert. Until that time we shall drift on at the mercy of chance, of departments, and of foreign schemers, like WALEWSKI.

#### THE CABINET.

WHEN Lord ABERDEEN surrendered the premiership to Lord PALMERSTON, an administration was established solely for the vigorous prosecution of the war. The war having been prosecuted to an end, the Cabinet is in the position of being without a policy. It is an indescribable Cabinet. It is not Whig, or Tory, or Liberal. It takes neither name nor colour from its measures. It is simply Lord PALMERSTON's Cabinet, and whenever it attempts to carry out a home measure, the measure almost invariably falls through. The few useful reforms of last year, with the exception of some important administrative improvements, were inheritances from the Coalition. All that it endeavours, and all that the nation seems to care for, is simply to "get along."

There are some motions on the papers of the two Houses, which may force the Government to take up some intelligible position. That relating to America would be the most formidable were Lord PALMERSTON to assume a tone of defiance and bluster, which he will not do, unless under the influence of some inconceivable feeling. The forces of the Conservative opposition, and of the independent Liberals are likely to be combined in this debate. The only reply on the part of Ministers likely to quiet the public apprehensions and conciliate Parliament, would be an assurance that the American difficulty is in a fair way of settlement, and an appeal to the Legislature not to risk change of Government in the midst of complex and delicate negotiations.

The Kars debate will try the strength of the Government. Nothing in the official correspondence explains, to the exonerations of the Cabinet, why that important position was sacrificed—why the sixty-one despatches addressed by General WILLIAMS to the British Ambassador in Constantinople were unanswered—why no timely relief was sent to Kars. There must have been neglect, or there must have been interference. If there has been neglect, the House of Commons is not likely to let it pass without censure; if there has been interference, no public explanations can be given; but, in either case, the debate may produce a parliamentary crisis. The elder and younger schools of Conservatives are agreed to act against the Government; the more impetuous of the independent members will join them. Nor does the Premier enjoy any longer the advantage of being allowed to appeal to the situation of the country in depreciation of party attacks. At the signal of the Treaty of Peace, party politics return to the arena.

The contingency that mitigates the enthusiasm of the Conservative party, and keeps even its most eager followers silent on the subject of "a strong government," is the dis-

solution that must follow a defeat of Ministers. Lord PALMERSTON resolved last year to adopt this alternative, rather than be driven from office; but he was unwilling to disperse a Parliament only three sessions old. The traders in disclosure and mystery, to astonish the wide-eyed populace, pretended that an influence at the Palace deterred the Premier from the dissolution. But it is certain that Lord PALMERSTON would not have hesitated to take the step had it been necessary; and in all probability, this being the fourth year of Lord DERBY's Parliament, he would have no aversion whatever to an electoral conflict to pass judgment on the war and the peace. It would, at least, give him the Ministerial boroughs filled under the influence of the Tory Premier. But there is a difference between a defeat on a measure of policy and a defeat carrying with it the reprobation of the Legislature.

The Opposition, if cast upon the "country," i.e. the irregularly scattered minority vested with electoral privileges, would go to the hustings flushed with political success, pointing to a censured Government, and enabled to claim the credit of having averted an American war, or punished the authors of the disaster at Kars. The Tories, however, no less than the Whigs, shrink from the enormous expenditure which, in spite of the purity laws, is implied by a general election.

Besides, what are to be the rallying cries? Peace with America would be, at best, the negation of an evil not very probable under any circumstances. Lord DERBY exhausted his programme in 1852, and his administration was a ridiculous failure; not—as it is pretended in the factious Conservative print which writes weekly a panegyric upon itself—because the Irish members were bribed, but because the country would not put confidence in Lord DERBY, or tolerate Mr. DISRAEELI. Is Conservatism more enlightened or liberal now? Has it gained any accession of talent or popularity? It seems to have forgotten that it ever had a policy, for its organs find nothing to write except feeble and malevolent personalities.

If the Government were prepared with a policy, the nation might be stimulated to support the Government; but Lord PALMERSTON was called in as "the pilot to weather the storm" at a time when "vigour" was the one thing needful. That crisis being past, what does he claim to be? A reformer in the right direction, his apologists say. In administrative reform, it is easy to allow that he has superseded the popular associations. But his proposals in Parliament on other subjects of domestic interest, have for the most part been abandoned or defeated. The Conservatives, in anticipation of a dissolution, have worked with energy to obtain a popular vote on the Maynooth endowment, and have won many suffrages by their policy on the balloting system. Government, on the other hand, acts with all the hesitation of insincerity; allows bills to be introduced, debated and withdrawn; suffers adverse majorities to accumulate on the Opposition benches without being stimulated to energy or eloquence, and seems to reckon upon the perpetual apathy of the nation.

The nation, however, is not altogether apathetic. It is absurd to deduce from the collapse of the Administrative Reform Association, that the people at large are lenient to administrative corruption. It is absurd, also, to argue from the blackness of darkness that descended on Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY's motion, that the people at large are satisfied with their parliamentary system. No rational man could have expected that a subject of that importance would be entertained by the Government or by the House

of Commons, so soon after a war that the ratifications of the Treaty of Peace had not been declared. To thrust these discussions upon the Legislature, to be cut short after a few platitudes on all sides, is to degrade a question, which, to be fairly met, must come on in its own season, under a real national impulse, with political ardour enlisted in the cause. At present, the classes most interested in parliamentary reform stand aloof from their officious advocates in the House of Commons. Where are their petitions? Where are their voices heard? It is true that the prospectuses of a "League" fit noiselessly from the metropolis to the manufacturing towns, and that the system of corresponding sections is in course of experiment. But all that is being done is preparatory.

#### THE GRISSELL CONTRACT.

THE verdict of the public on the appeal of Messrs. H. and M. D. GRISSELL, of the Regent's Canal Ironworks, will probably be a paraphrase of that pronounced by the jury of the man who was accused of having beaten his wife to death: "Not guilty, and she was as bad as he was." Messrs. GRISSELL succeed in showing that they are not so conspicuous and singular in their conduct as tradesmen, but they do so at the expense of exposing their trade; and, we may add, of exposing the official persons who had to deal with them. They have put forward a pamphlet which comprises part of the official correspondence and their own story.\* They cannot plead inexperience. "We have," they say, "been in the iron trade all our lives, and believe that, so far as iron is concerned, for all the purposes of machinery and engineering, we know our business as well as any men in Great Britain." About the middle of last year, the Government required a large number of mortars; persons who had taken contracts proved to have no power of producing them; circulars were issued from Woolwich Arsenal, inviting founders to make a large number of heavy mortars, and indicating "the price usually paid for the service mortar" at 21*l.* to 23*l.* per ton. Messrs. GRISSELL say, distinctly, that they were "requested by the authorities" to manufacture some of the mortars. One of the officers of the arsenal sent the circular, and said that 24*l.* per ton would be given. The firm calculated that their own cost would be 28*l.* per ton, and they asked 32*l.*; but, finding that the "ordinary" price was not more than 24*l.*, desiring to render assistance to Government at such a time, and "having been entrusted with extensive works for the Government for so many years," they agreed to undertake eight mortars at 24*l.* When they set to work they met with difficulties that they did not anticipate; and to complete their means of execution, they entered into an outlay of 1000*l.*, although they were certain of making no profit by the transaction. After delivering the contract, they received a further order. In the mean while they had resorted to two contrivances not usual in the manufacture of mortars. Instead of pouring the metal in at the side, and allowing it to rise, they poured in two-thirds that way and one-third on the top, expecting to gain a greater density. To fit the mortar to the lathe for the purpose of boring, it has been customary to screw two holes in the sides for about two-thirds of the thickness: instead of that plan, Messrs. GRISSELL cut out a cubical

piece of metal at the back, fitted a new piece into it with a rod protruding, and then afterwards snapped the rod off and polished the surface. In the new plan of casting some bubble-holes were caused in the face, and these were filled in with cast-iron plugs. One of the mortars burst in proving; of the three mortars used with the ordinary charge, the first burst at the ninth discharge, the second at the tenth, and the third at the hundred and thirteenth.

Here we have the explanation of Messrs. GRISSELL themselves as to the making, with the results. There can be no doubt that the mortars were inferior both to the ordinary class of such arms, and to the expectations of the firm. The introduction of a separate piece into the breech of the mortar must have tended to weaken it; and the plugging of the flaws in the side was of course a serious defect. Nor, even as a repair, was it well executed. It has been said that this plugged part is really stronger than any other part; an assertion which denies the nature of the metal; since the constant expansion and contraction of two separate pieces of metal must tend, as it proves in fact, ultimately to loosen the piece inserted. In the present case, however, the holes were larger than the plugs. In some instances they extended to the depth of about four inches; in two, they were of a complicated form—the first hole opening into a second, or even a third chamber; and in one instance, the plug was too small in its diameter. Such were the pieces of artillery that such a firm, describing itself as one of the most experienced and eminent in England, would have furnished our forces in the face of the enemy!

In the official eyes, however, the great offences were the fraud and concealment; and it is from these two charges that Messrs. GRISSELL seek principally to free themselves. The plugging, they say, was not executed for purposes of fraud, but only in the ordinary process of iron manufacture, in order to render the manufactured article "neat." Now, we have heard of plugging, for purposes of neatness, in ornamental fire-grates. But however neat the grate might look to the purchaser, the flaw ultimately becomes an eyesore. Now is neatness the grand object in artillery. If manufacturers will thus treat the weapons of war, may we not expect that neatness is sometimes made to cover equally serious defects in machinery, for manufactures and railroads, upon whose completeness safety of life depends almost as much as in the case of artillery. Yet Messrs. GRISSELL tell us that this is the *usual* mode. They affirm that the plugging was "as plain as the spectacles on a man's face," and they deny the concealment, on the ground that that method of finishing should have been treated as a matter of course. Messrs. I. K. BRUNEL and JOHN FOWLER, the eminent engineers, gave them a testimonial to combat the charge of fraud; and hence we have rather an alarming corroboration of the suspicions which we may entertain with respect to engines for factories and railroads. Ultimately, the firm were acquitted, by the officials, of fraud, but not of the concealment. One ease of plugging was pointed out to Mr. GRISSELL in December last, and he then said that it had been resorted to by his foreman without his knowledge; but by a letter from the firm of the 9th inst., it appears that they had very deliberately considered the process of plugging, and had endeavoured to give it some degree of completeness; an inconsistency of behaviour which certainly looks like a desire to avoid a full avowal. The whole tenor of the correspondence on the side of the manufacturers, however, is to strengthen the assurance that, throughout, they were only fol-

lowing the ordinary maxims and rules of trade.

If the contractors were thus acting, the officials cannot be let off. If the manufacturers were thus exercising the sharpness of trade for the purposes of passing off defective goods, the officials were acting like chapmen in the market, trying to beat down prices, and trusting more to the binding of the contract than to the character of the men with whom they were dealing. If customers were not bent immorally upon obtaining goods without giving the equivalent for them, tradesmen would not resort to practices of evasion in order to obtain covertly what the customer will not give openly. The process of adulteration, in great firms at least, has grown up *pari passu* with the progress of beating down. In former days, gentlemen piqued themselves on paying handsomely for what they got; they now pay handsomely only to the money-lender, or to the tradesman who gives long credit on the money-lender's principle. In those former days, too, the great merchant and the great manufacturer piqued himself on his power to challenge the world to prove that any part of his wares were other than "sterling." Sterling was the price paid by the purchaser, sterling the goods sold by the maker; and each would have thought his character impaired by the discovery of any trick or meanness in the transaction. If the maker has fallen off from that standard, so has the purchaser. The Government teaches the lesson to vendors by exposing contractors; it teaches purchasers by exposing itself as it has. If both parties were to return to the old plan, of doing the thing handsomely, they would substitute a real gain—the gaining of the thing wanted on each side—in lieu of the loss which both incur in the endeavour to cheat each other.

#### LORD JOHN'S FAILURE.

In the midst of more stirring movements, we must not quite forget Lord JOHN RUSSELL's education plan, for its failure has a moral needful just now. The plan proves to be not the best measure for the purpose of the present day, for the hard reason that *it is not carried*. But we must look a little beyond this particular bill. We have already shown that it would have secured three great results—the three greatest results that we might expect from any system of public education. It would have placed tuition within reach of any child of the community; it would have secured the freedom for parents of withdrawing any child from sectarian teaching, while it would have placed within the reach of every pupil the knowledge of the religion which is the religion of the land; and it would have rendered available some of those charities which were left for educational purposes but which are totally wasted, and in some cases criminally abused. No scheme of public education which did not secure at least the two first of these results would be worth anything, and, although Lord John's plan was full of faults, open for easy detection, the faults were as nothing compared to the attainment of those three objects. We have been no eulogists of Lord JOHN; we see him now lying under all the discredit of failure; but we shall not on those accounts withhold the utterance of our belief, that if his plan had been fully carried out, we should have got from it the chief objects which we require from any plan whatsoever.

In losing Lord JOHN's plan, which we regret, have we the promise of any other? No. And why not? How do we stand with reference to other measures? Mr. BAINES tells us that the Voluntaries are

\* Part of Correspondence relative to the Charges of Fraud, made in both Houses of Parliament, by the War Department, in reference to alleged defects in the breech of four 18-inch Sea-service Mortars; being a portion of two contracts supplied by H. and M. D. Grisell, Regent's Canal Ironworks, London. Waterlow and Sons.

getting on very well. We can only answer that they are not making any progress to be compared with the progress made in other countries, whether regal, republican, or constitutional—whether in Prussia, the United States, or in Ireland. In all those countries there is public education, and in the United States the public education is of so high a kind that many leading public men have been educated at the public schools, and boys there, are as intelligent as men here, comparatively speaking. The Voluntaries can show nothing to compare with those results. Well, then, we have Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, who would have helped Lord JOHN to a certain extent, and who has a scheme of his own: can we expect him to succeed where Lord JOHN has failed? The question answers itself. We have Mr. MILNER GIBSON, with a plan of secular education entirely excluding religious instruction—a very good plan, but far more unlikely to be accepted than Lord JOHN's; and so far, according to our test, worse than Lord JOHN's. The supporters of secular education have assisted in shutting us out from Lord JOHN's plan—that is, they have assisted in preventing education. Has Mr. HENLEY,—who stopped Lord JOHN on the threshold,—any scheme? That question also answers itself. Mr. HENLEY is an anti-educationist in the popular sense of the word, and those who voted for him were conspirators against providing the young of our day with religious education.

What is the practical consequence? What is the hard net result of all these conflicts of men and parties? It is, that we fall back upon the existing system of education under the Privy Council, with so much of improvement as we can get out of Lord GRANVILLE and the future Vice-President of Education. That is, the Committee is to go on amassing its minutes unconsolidated, niggling away at local schools where they can be coaxed into existence, but leaving immense interstices in districts unprovided, and hundreds of thousands of the young without a chance of having a schoolmaster.

As to the two nights' debate, last week, it was a mere drama for the majority of those who spoke, especially for the most distinguished actor, Sir JAMES GRAHAM, the new leader of the Voluntaries. This is his latest metamorphosis. It really is not worth while to anatomise the past history of Sir JAMES GRAHAM. We only ask the people of this country whether they recognise him—the jealous guardian of Post Office letters!—as the representative of the Voluntary principle for the democracy of this country? Sir JAMES himself would have neither weight nor power in the House of Commons, if he had not been used by other parties as a means of obstructing education for the people. It is a great thing to get an ex-First Lord of the Admiralty to talk Voluntaryism, especially when he is so "powerful" a man as the GRAHAM of Netherby, who always professes to tell us "the reason why." If people wished to retort, they might ask Sir JAMES the reason why he entered into a war, and then deserted the Ministry that began it? Why he sent his friend and correspondent, Sir CHARLES NAPIER, to the Baltic? And now, the reason why he joins the Voluntary party? It would be an interesting *exposé* of the fact with which a practised hand plays at party billiards. He was the great speaker in the debate, and his position illustrates the position of parties. For the rest the debate and its close were really of little value. Lord JOHN cut off several of his resolutions, so far abridging his plan; but we understand as much of his plan at the end as at the beginning, with the one conclusion that we ascertained. It is this:—That in the present

temper of the men whom the people send up to the House of Commons, they are less disposed to support any men who propose a scheme of public education than any man like Mr. HENLEY who will put his veto upon all progress. It is clear that the people are not to get public education out of the House of Commons as it is at present constituted; and here again, even in this question of teaching children, we are thrown back upon the severance of views, of sympathies, and of interests between the people's House and the people itself.

#### PULPIT-WAR AT OXFORD.

MR. JOWETT and his doctrine of the Atonement seem to have been the mark for all the preachers in the Oxford Pulpit last term. It has been said that in that pulpit the preacher of the afternoon confutes the preacher of the morning, so that the mental result obtained by staying away altogether, is the same as that obtained by constant attendance—a zero of conviction in either case. In the present instance, there seems to have been more unanimity. Sermon upon sermon, the theological projectiles lie rolled together before the heretical theory like cannon balls before an earthwork at Sebastopol: and they have had about as little effect. Rather they must have had an effect damaging to those who fired them, which the cannon balls had not. They must have made the dullest and laziest undergraduate who slumbers on those venerable benches, anxious to read the divine who has so fluttered the Volscians of Orthodoxy. We will venture to say that Mr. JOWETT's publisher, unlike GORTSCHAKOFF, wishes the *feu d'enfer* may continue for ever. The Vice Chancellor has made a grand mistake in bringing so many small guns, instead of one great piece, into the field: their noise attracts attention and their bullets do no harm.

But what must be the effect of this process on the mind of an undergraduate? We are not concerned to be prudish in protesting against any disturbance of the security of youthful orthodoxy; but we cannot think that such a thorough unsettlement as these exhibitions of theological fury and panic are calculated to produce can be good for any man at the age of twenty. Something of the feeling so tenderly expressed by Dr. WATTS should animate the mind of the preacher who addresses that youthful and excitable audience; their little hands ought not to be taught as yet to tear each other's eyes. In time they will become theological disputants, DITCHERS and DENISONS, PHILPOTTS and GORHAMS, and unroll (to use the metaphor of the terrible Archdeacon) the banner of the Catholic Church, on which it is written that no one who differs from them on a point of Byzantine metaphysics can be saved. At present the hour is propitious for infusing into them certain ideas, and lessons less important in Byzantium, but more important to humanity. Surely there are some points on which even divines of the Church of England are agreed. There are lessons of Christian Ethics for which, unless theology is quite distinct from religion and morality, even future controversialists will be none the worse. And if there are, they may form fitter topics for the pulpit of a place of education than that on which the theological policemen of the Vice-Chancellor dilate in the heap of sermons before us.

But the melancholy part of it is the ignorance of the real facts of the age among the clergy which these scenes reveal. In such a state of opinion as that at which we have arrived, the spiritual guides of the nation, the occupants of its fourteen thousand pulpits, the representatives in no small degree

of its moral energy and devotion, looking round the religious horizon can see no cloud more menacing than Mr. JOWETT's dubious expressions on the theory of Vicarious Suffering. That appears to them the great peril of the day, and the one against which it is most necessary to guard the innocent flock entrusted to their care. They do not know, or they choose desperately to forget, that the ground is all hollow beneath their feet; that a vast body of criticism, which they would themselves admit to be sound in kind if it were directed against profane documents, stands against them not only unconfuted but almost unassailed; and that an ever widening gulf separates them and their system not only from the keenest intellect, but from the most serious morality of the age. At twenty-three, fresh perhaps from a life of fast undergraduation, they go into orders, declare their implicit belief in a vast body of theology which they have never examined, become teachers of the people, and from that time think no more. If a brother clergyman is lax on a point of religious philosophy, they confute him out of the Fathers, and are satisfied. Otherwise, they compose the weekly modicum of conventional rhetoric in peace. Where will it end?

**A PEACE HOAX.**—A hoax, worthy of Theodore Hook himself, was perpetrated on Monday. An apparently official proclamation had been posted up, announcing that "a mounted herald, accompanied by a pursuivant," would, on the 21st inst., "prefaced by a flourish of trumpets," announce the conclusion of peace at the following localities: Elephant and Castle, Aldgate, Royal-Exchange, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Holborn-bars, Oxford-street Circus, Tyburn-gate, Hyde Park-corner, Piccadilly Circus, Charing-cross. At all these spots, large crowds collected; but it is needless to say that they no more saw the herald and the pursuivant, nor heard the flourish of trumpets, than the persons whom Charles Lamb sent to Primrose-hill to see the Persian ambassador pay his devotions, as a fire-worshipper, to the rising sun, beheld that interesting religious ceremonial.—A young man, named Gaspar Collard, was on Monday examined at Marlborough-street on a charge arising out of the trick. He was theatrically "made up" with a long curling wig, false moustaches, a herald's tabard profusely adorned with tinsel lions and unicorns, and a blue velvet hat and feathers. The charge was one of assault in Hyde Park. Before the magistrate, Collard said:—"I was employed by Mr. Greville Potter, of Oxford-street, to read a proclamation at various places to-day, announcing to the public that it is his intention to give away portraits of the heroes of the Crimea of many hundreds' value. About 5000 bills have been posted in different parts, and because I was behind the stated time, and the people were kept waiting, they became infuriated, and when I made my appearance in Hyde Park, the cries were 'Pull him off his horse!' and this would have been done if a police-constable had not interfered. I struck in self-defence, without assaulting any one in particular. I am only a servant acting under the instructions of another." The young man was released, after a lecture.

**LOCAL CHARGES ON SHIPPING.**—The Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider these dues met for the first time on Friday week; Mr. Lowe in the chair. Mr. Heron, town clerk of Manchester, and Mr. Bramley Moore, were the only two witnesses examined. The former, after giving a historical sketch of the Liverpool town dues, called attention to the fact that they are not levied in accordance with any fixed scale, but at the discretion of the Common Council, and that there is no official tariff for the collection of the dues. The greatest uncertainty prevails even among the authorities themselves as to the amount to be claimed in each particular case; and the matter is often left to be settled arbitrarily by the clerks, who exact as much as they can get. Pilfering is a frequent result of this system. Mr. Moore gave some particulars with respect to the ordinary receipts, and the Committee adjourned till Monday, when Mr. Heron was again examined, and furnished additional details as to the nature, history, and appropriation of the Liverpool dues. On Thursday, several witnesses were examined, who all condemned the Liverpool dues on the ground of the injury they inflict on commerce.

**THE REJOICINGS FOR PEACE.**—Large temporary wooden buildings, for the preparation of the fireworks to be displayed on the occasion of the peace rejoicings, are being erected in Hyde Park, the Green Park, Victoria Park, and on the summit of Primrose-hill. The exhibition, it is stated, will be of the utmost magnificence.

## Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

Doubts about our progress in Art are reasonable, but doubts are impossible when Science and the applications of Science are in question. Every decade the advance is palpable. It is but a few years since steam navigation was introduced, and the "youngest inhabitant" is almost capable of recalling the first Atlantic steamer. And now Mr. BRUNEL is building a steamer—no, not a steamer, but a sailing town—which will be to all other steamers what the Great Western was to a Thames wherry. To learn all about this marvel of ship-building you must go to the *Quarterly Review*. That Review is famous not only as always being the most entertaining of the Reviews, but as generally contriving to get articles which supply dinner-tables with small-talk, and busy men with valuable information. In the present number a paper, called the "Triton and the Minnows," gives a lively and graphic account of the Great Eastern, which is to astound Neptune, and render the Atlantic passage a promenade, without those dismal necessities for "steward," which have somewhat mitigated the pleasure of the voyage. As you row up or down the Thames, at the southern extremity of the Isle of Dogs you see an enormous work in preparation.

Where are the merry ship-carpenters, caulking away with monotonous, dead-sounding blows? Where are the artisans chipping with their adzes, rearing up one after another huge ribs, and laying the massive keel? Where are the bright augers gleaming in the sun, as sturdy arms work out the bolt-holes? None of these old accustomed sights and sounds of ship-building are to be found; but in their place we see the arm of steam, mightier than that of Thor, welding some iron shaft big as "the mast of some huge admiral," or punching inch-plates of iron as quickly and as noiselessly as a lady punches card-board for a fancy-fair ornament. Steel, urged by the same potent master, is seen showing its mastery over iron as the huge lathes revolve, or the planing-machine pursues steadily its resistless course, whilst, in place of the shavings of the carpenter, long ringlets of dull grey metal cumber the ground. The ship-carpenter is transmuted into a brawny smith, and the civil engineer takes the place of the marine architect. A closer inspection of this Leviathan vessel shows us how completely the employment of a new material has necessitated new ideas with respect to construction. She runs along, or rather will—for she is not yet quite up in frame—some seven hundred feet; those portions of her yet unfinished at stem and stern show her partitions or bulk-heads running nearly sixty feet in height, and standing just sixty feet apart. If we examine the outer walls of these huge partitions, we see at once that the ship has no ribs springing from a keel or back-bone—none of the ordinary framework by which her bulging sides are maintained in their places; but, on closer inspection, it is found that she has a system of ribs or webs, longitudinal instead of transverse, running from stem to stern of the ship, up to eight feet above her deep-water line; and riveted on each side of these thirty-two webs or ribs, which are again subdivided at convenient lengths, are plates of iron  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch in thickness, forming a double skin to the ship, or a dermis and epidermis. Thus her framework forms a system of cells, which, like the Menai tube, combines the minimum of weight with the maximum of strength. A glance at the transverse midship section will show at once this portion of her structure. Hitherto it has been the practice to build iron ships in exactly the same manner, as regards framework, as wooden ones; that is, the strength of the sides has been made gradually to lighten towards the deck, which being of wood can offer but slight resisting power. Thus iron ships of the old method of construction are peculiarly liable to break their backs upon the application of force, either to their two ends or to the centre of their keels, just, in short, as a tube would be easily broken, one side of which was made much stronger than the other. The Birkenhead iron troop ship was a melancholy instance of this unscientific method of construction; for it will be remembered that immediately she struck, her wooden deck doubled up and snapped in two, as a stick would snap across the knee, whilst stem and stern reared for a moment high in the air, and then went down like stones into the deep.

After describing further details of the construction, the writer adds:—

If we clamber up the ladders which lead to her deck, some 60 feet above the ground, we perceive that her interior presents fully as strange a contrast to other vessels as the construction of her hull does. Ten perfectly water-tight bulkheads, placed 60 feet apart, having no openings whatever lower than the second deck, divide the ship transversely; whilst two longitudinal walls of iron, 36 feet apart, traverse 350 feet of the length of the ship. Thus the interior is divided, like the sides, into a system of cells or boxes. Besides these main divisions, there are a great number of sub-compartments beneath the lowest deck, devoted to the boiler-rooms, engine-rooms, coal and cargo, &c.; whilst some 40 or 50 feet of her stem and stern are rendered almost as rigid as so much solid iron by being divided by iron decks from bulwark to keel, her upper deck is double, and is also composed of a system of cells formed by plates and angle irons. By this multiplication of rectilinear compartments, the ship is made almost as strong as if she were of solid iron, whilst, by the same system of construction, she is rendered as light and as indestructible, comparatively speaking, as a piece of bamboo. There is a separate principle of life in every distinct portion, and she could not well be destroyed even if broken into two or three pieces, since the fragments, like those of a divided worm, would be able to sustain an independent existence.

This Leviathan is to carry 800 first-class, 2000 second-class, and 1200 third-class passengers, independently of the crew. Neither Grosvenor-square nor Belgrave-square would contain the hull. In fact, she is the eighth of a mile in length, and measures from side to side the width of Pall-mall, and across the paddle-boxes the width of Portland-place! Her speed will be twenty miles an hour. But the danger?

It was prophesied that Mr. Brunel's first ship, the Great Western, would be doubled up as she rested upon the crests of the Atlantic waves, and we all know how the prophecy was fulfilled. When it was made, indeed, we were very much in the dark as to the size of ocean waves, and it was not until the introduction of long steamers that they could be measured with any accuracy. Dr. Scoresby, whilst crossing the Atlantic in one of the Cunard boats, some years since, closely observed the waves, and by means of the known length of the ship, was enabled to form a pretty accurate idea of their dimensions. The old vague account of their being "mountains high" was well known before that time to be an exaggeration; but we do not think even philosophers were prepared for the statement made by this observer at a meeting, some years since, of the British Association, that they averaged no more than twenty feet

in altitude, and rarely exceeded twenty-eight feet. The popular impression, principally produced by marine painters, that waves formed valleys thousands of yards across, down the sides of which ships slid as though they were about to be engulfed, seems to have been equally erroneous, as the maximum length of ocean waves, according to Dr. Scoresby, is six hundred feet; whilst in a moderate gale they are only three hundred, and in a fresh sea about a hundred and twenty feet in length. A moment's consideration of these facts leads to the conclusion that long ships must have a great advantage over short ones with respect to the rapidity with which they make their journey, as it is quite evident that whilst the latter have to perform their voyages by making a series of short curves—much to the impediment of their progress and to the discomfort of their inmates—the former, by ruling the waves with their commanding proportions, make shorter and smoother passages. As steamers grow larger and larger, the curse of sea-sickness must therefore gradually diminish. The Great Eastern, from her length and the bearing she will have upon the water, being a paddle as well as a screw ship, will, in all probability, neither pitch nor roll, and will therefore be most comfortable to the voyager. Her immense stride, if we may use the term, will enable her to take three of the three hundred-feet waves of an Atlantic gale as easily as a racer would take a moderate-sized brook.

We cannot of course reproduce a tenth part of the information so pleasantly given in this article, and must conclude with the following:—

If we mistake not, the success of the Great Eastern will constitute a new era in the art of aggressive war. We question whether Europe during the course of the present contest has not been more struck by our enormous power of moving suddenly large masses of men from one end of Europe to another, than by any other operation which we have performed. The Himalaya, as she steamed up the Bosphorus, filled the lazy Turks with astonishment; and the cloud of steamers and sailing vessels which carried the Allied army to the shores of the Crimea, has been dwelt upon as an exposition of maritime magnificence such as the world never witnessed before. What will the reader say when we tell him that five vessels such as the Great Eastern could bring home our 50,000 troops from the Crimea, with all their artillery and baggage, in the course of ten or twelve days?

While we have been thus enlarging our commercial boats, we have been diminishing the size of our war steamers, and the remainder of the *Quarterly Reviewer*'s essay is devoted to the gunboats.

Besides this, the most generally interesting article in the number, there are others on "British Family Histories," SOUTHEY and Mr. RUSKIN, which will be read with pleasure. The last named, indeed, is an attack upon Mr. RUSKIN, written with considerable ability, although quite missing the real and positive excellencies of that rare and remarkable critic. Whenever men philosophize about Art, and especially when they dogmatize about it, they are certain to lay themselves open to criticism, for, in truth, their attempt is essentially mistaken. Art is felt, not thought. It does not come within the province of Science, except in its technical details, and Science cannot properly adjudicate upon it. Abstract principles, seemingly so true, fail to reach its vitality. You might as well attempt to treat Morals on the principles of Mathematics. Into this error Mr. RUSKIN certainly falls. He is incessantly testing pictures according to some extraneous principles of morality, religion, or philosophy; and as he is at the same time very dogmatic, and not a little insolent, he provokes angry criticism. But were his errors tenfold they would not do away with his rare excellencies; they may mar his books, but they do not alter his minute and delicate observation of Nature, his poet's enthusiasm and poet's power of word-painting, his elegant and varied culture; they do not prevent his books being among the most fascinating in our language. Of all this the *Quarterly Reviewer* scarcely takes note. Mr. RUSKIN has argued and dogmatized; his critic retorts argument and dogmatism.

M. DE MONTALEMENT's book on England is the subject of an article from a pen which no reader of the *Quarterly* will mistake; and CORNWALL LEWIS's book on "Roman History" affords a grave and erudite essay. Altogether, the number is very attractive.

The *Journal of Psychological Medicine* is one which we always open with expectation, for Dr. FORBES WINSLOW, while keeping his special object of insanity steadily in view, generally manages to select articles interesting to all reflecting readers. The present number contains one of very grave and pressing importance on "Moral and Criminal Epidemics," and one also on "Lucid Intervals." The other topics are exclusively addressed to medical practitioners.

In the *North American Review* there is a paper with the piquant title of "The Poetry of Anatomy," the object of which is excellent, being no less than the rescuing of anatomical study from that instinctive tremor and repulsion which seizes most minds at the presence of any anatomical details, whereas the marvels of organization are among the most stupendous marvels of creation, and capable of exciting the profoundest and most reverential feelings in the mind which contemplates them. The purpose of this article is better than its execution. Nor can we say much of the article on "The Westminster Review on Alcoholic Liquors,"—an attack on the *Westminster* from the teetotal point of view, but not calling for any further notice from us.

## ARCHER BUTLER'S HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY.

*Lectures on the History of Ancient Philosophy.* By William Archer Butler, M.A., late Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Dublin. Edited from the Author's MSS., with Notes by W. H. Thompson, M.A. 2 vols.

Macmillan and Co.

These volumes, which have been looked for with considerable expectation, are somewhat disappointing. The first volume, indeed, is of very small worth, and scarcely deserved the honour of being edited by so admirable a scholar as Professor Thompson. It consists of the first Lectures which Mr. Butler delivered, and although these were probably attractive to young students, who had to be persuaded that they were not wasting their time in

bestowing it on psychology and the history of Philosophy, might have been left in MS. without public loss. The Lectures on the early schools are pleasantly written, but we, who read them only a fortnight ago, are utterly unable to recall anything they contain—a proof that no vivid impression was produced.

Very different is the second volume, which is entirely devoted to Plato and to an analysis of Aristotle's treatise *De Anima*. This is a rare and admirable volume, and if republished by itself would, we have little doubt, hold its place on every philosophic shelf. In these Lectures Mr. Butler is not only handling topics with which he is familiar, but has acquired greater mastery in exposition. He has studied Plato with rare zeal, and his enthusiasm gives eloquence to his style, which carries the reader on, even when that reader is, like ourselves, opposed to the conclusions aimed at.

Considering the enormous reputation of Plato it is astonishing how few men have read the writings they are told to prize so highly. One of the few was certainly Mr. Butler, and the result of his studies has been a passionate admiration of Plato and the Platonic Philosophy. That much of this admiration is owing to the supposed affinities between Platonism and Christianity is evident in many passages. But without such a prestige Mr. Butler would probably have bowed before it; the bent of his mind being peculiarly in that semi-sentimental, semi-logical direction taken by minds which delight in certain doctrines more because they are "consolatory" than because they are true; and delight also in the subtleties of logical fence. This is not the place to discuss the Philosophy of Plato, and we content ourselves with simply indicating Mr. Butler's position. For those who admire Plato, either upon trust or after study of his writings, these Lectures will be delightful and instructive. For those who take a much more moderate view of the Platonic Philosophy, these Lectures will also have a charm such as the writing in general on that subject seldom reaches. Great as Mr. Butler's admiration is, it is not indiscriminating. For example, in noticing the sweeping condemnation of the Platonic Dialogues by Ast—who sacrifices twenty-one—Mr. Butler well says:—

The reasons upon which this bold decision is founded are totally unsatisfactory. An ideal is formed of the Platonic style, and all which seems to fall below this conception is declared to be the feeble imitation of some ambitious pupil. Some construct this ideal in reference to the perfection of style, others in reference to force of doctrine; some look to the artist, others to the philosopher; but all equally adopt a principle against which the genuineness of none of the more voluminous authors of antiquity could stand. No one is more ready than myself to admit that among the Platonic dialogues are some which appear miserably unworthy of the author of the sixth and seventh books of the *Republic*; but when I find the *Hippias Minor*, with its barren paradoxes, authenticated by the express reference of Aristotle, I learn to distrust *a priori* criticism. Plato's writings were spread over a long and meditative life; they were produced under various influences, and probably under many changes of temper and feeling; the Columbus of the Ideal World could not always steer steadily and exultingly for the land of his discoveries and his reputation; nor can we tell what conjectures may have given pertinency to discussions that now seem arid and unprofitable. The partiality of a writer for early essays may have induced Plato to permit imperfect sketches to shelter their imperfection under the shadow of maturer greatness; and his deep reverence for Socrates may have sometimes induced him to forbear qualifying with his own more finished excellence a few of those paradoxical discussions in which the old master kept his unrivalled powers of casuistry in play, and breathed himself for more momentous encounters. By the aid of such considerations as these, there are none of the works of Plato authenticated by fair *external* evidence, which we may not receive as possible, or probable, products of his mind.

We are all in the habit of talking of the Platonic Philosophy as if there were such a philosophy expounded in Plato's Dialogues; but in truth one might as well talk of Shakespeare's Philosophy, or Molière's. Not only is Plato everywhere rambling and discursive, but he is everywhere self-contradictory. The doctrines taught in one dialogue are contradicted by those taught in another. Certain general views on Method are pretty constant, and certain particular opinions are frequent; but any co-ordinated system of thought is not to be extracted from the Dialogues. Looking broadly at the teaching, we may, with Mr. Butler, recognise in it a twofold aspect:—

The teaching of Plato presented a double aspect, and each found its exaggerated likeness in succeeding forms of philosophy. On the one hand, the constant depreciation of the certainty and value of such knowledge as is derived through the channel of the *sense*, was represented in the sceptical, or semi-sceptical, succession of the Academics; on the other, the loftier views of his more abstract tenets were resumed, and too often disfigured, by the Alexandrian mystics. In exhibiting the ultimate forms of his doctrines when *separately* and *exclusively* received, these schools afford very valuable instruction to the student of Plato. The double result is highly characteristic of the localities where it manifested itself. The subtle intellect of Greece soon adopted as its favourite that element of Platonism which gave room for endless distinctions, strange paradoxes, and scholastic conflict; the Oriental genius of Alexandria found food for its musing quietism in those remote and ethereal speculations which seemed to justify a life of meditative inaction, and even to exhibit, as its reward and inheritance, an immediate commerce with heaven. No inquiry can be more interesting and profitable to those who desire to grow wise upon recorded error—to erect, as it were, warning beacons upon every perilous passage in the vast sea of human speculation—than that which examines these two developments of Platonism, and traces to their consummate efflorescence the germs which already lay scattered through the old dialogues of the master himself. Every one feels that the danger of the Platonic philosophy from its earliest hour, was its bias to *exclusive contemplation*; and in these developments you have the inevitable result.

One leading characteristic of Plato's mind—a characteristic eminently unphilosophic, but eminently calculated to captivate the majority—is that abstract mode of viewing things, which constitutes his "idealism." He never looks at the thing before him; never considers it in its totality, in its many-sided significance, but always abstracts from it some one attribute, and, fastening upon that, ignores all the rest. It is thus,

When Plato is engaged with the discussion of the particular sciences, he resolves them into the science of Good; when engaged with the particular virtues, he resolves them into the virtue of Science. The *Laches* is a discussion on valour, and it is shown to be as nothing where not directed by that presiding knowledge which alone can raise it into the sphere of virtue; while, on the other hand, mathematics, music, astronomy, are below the level of the philosopher, where not made strictly subordinate to the art of converse with the supremely good.

And thus he fastens on "the rationality of man as his essential attribute," and makes the pursuit of truth the object of life. Now it is clear that reason is only *one* attribute of man; by no means the *essential* attribute, if the highest; and that the object of life is living, not the pursuit of truth, for truth itself is only employed as a means of life. Whoever, therefore, abstracting Reason, and ignoring all the other complex attributes of man, builds his philosophy on that basis, may be very "spiritual," utterly "ideal," and dear to all rhetoricians, but assuredly will fail in the primary requisite of a philosopher; he might as well attempt to teach zoology by fastening attention solely on the way in which animals secure their prey, neglecting all other considerations of structure and function. But we said we would not discuss Plato, and must keep our word.

The second, and to us the most valuable portion of Mr. Butler's volume is devoted to an analysis of Aristotle's treatise on the *Vital Principle*. Mr. Butler has, in common with the majority of moderns, failed to recognise the peculiar significance of the title employed by Aristotle, because like them he has overlooked the fundamental fact that the separation of Soul from Life is Christian and not Greek. Aristotle is accused by Mr. Butler of "materialism." The accusation is common; but it would have astonished a Greek. Materialism and Immaterialism are words which to Aristotle would have called up *no* ideas. Life and Soul were inextricably interwoven, in his system, not as two things temporally conjoined, but as two aspects of one thing. Life was always and everywhere psychial, though only specially intelligent. This was the doctrine of Aristotle; and now after so many centuries it is reproduced by Mr. Herbert Spencer in his *Principles of Psychology* with a fulness of detail, and a rigour of demonstration demanded by the present state of science.

Of all this Mr. Butler has not a suspicion; but he analyses, as far as he understands it, with great clearness and care, the whole treatise, and readers will be very grateful to him for the care thus bestowed.

#### STORY OF A BLUE-BOTTLE.

*La Folle du Logis.* Par Léon Gozlan.

London: D. Nutt.

Have you ever seen a huge blue-bottle buzzing in all the contentment that sunshine and the vicinity of a good larder can give, suddenly entangled in the web of an ill-conditioned spider, who is lurking in the corner ready to pounce on his victim, and nourish his venomous body on its innocent juices? It is an entomological tragicomedy which has many parodies in human society—parodies which Balzac, of all artists, best loved to describe; witness his incomparable *Curé de Tours*. M. Léon Gozlan, apparently under the inspiration of Balzac, gives us, in the volume of tales which he rather whimsically calls *La Folle du Logis*, some new versions of the blue-bottle and spider drama, under the title of *Les Petits Machiavels*. Here is a sketch from the best of these stories, which will, perhaps, interest the admirers of the *Scènes de la Vie de Province*.

M. Maes, a rich Belgian merchant, had become possessor, in May, 1837, of an enviable property on the banks of the Seine, not very far from Ville-neuve, comprising, besides a charming villa and stables, a garden, a conservatory, pleasure-grounds, with statues and labyrinths—in short, everything a retired merchant could desire as his elysium after traversing the world from Antwerp to Java. To crown his happiness, he had excellent health and was a bachelor, proof against all the assaults of coquetry. With a constitution which had resisted yellow fever, and a sensibility which had resisted matrimony for two-and-forty years, he was sure at once of his heart and his stomach. You can conceive the sensations with which M. Maes took his first walk in his garden, with his hands under his coat-tails, in all the glories of proprietorship! The sun was shining with the splendour of commencing June on garden, corn-field, and meadow, and, above all, on the river—that river which promised endless fishing, the ruling passion of M. Maes. The close neighbourhood of the river had chiefly decided him to purchase Folie Margot at rather a bouncing price, and he had provided himself with all the apparatus dear to the piscatorial imagination. How happy M. Maes was going to be! He almost envied himself as he thought of the thrill with which he should perceive his line vibrating to the bite of a twenty-pound carp. Next to fishing, like a true Belgian, he loved flowers, and there was a whole army of them at his feet. He stooped to gather a tulip, and on rising saw, about two paces from him, a man as short and fat as himself, with little grey eyes sunk into his head, and a costume between a miller's and a mason's. The stranger bowed as low as the parabolic section of his body would permit, and smiled elaborately. "You are the gardener, doubtless?" "No, Monsieur Maes, I am Nicolas Merrain, your poor neighbour, the owner of that slip of ground, no bigger than a pocket-hankerchief, that lies between your property and the river. I come to bid you welcome, Monsieur Maes." "And what crop does your ground yield you, Monsieur Merrain?" "Pebbles in summer, mud in winter. But I have an affection for it; my poor wife used to come and wash her linen there in her life-time." "Very good. You keep your bit of ground in memory of your wife. I esteem you for it, Monsieur Merrain. We shall be good neighbours, I see." "You do me an honour in thinking so, Monsieur, and if in anything you need my poor services—" "What is your trade, my good friend?" "I do a little of all sorts. I buy standing crops; I buy old buildings when they are not too dear, and sell the materials by lot." As M. Maes, in haste to make the tour of his grounds, bade his new neighbour good day, that worthy murmured to himself, "I shall make a good job of it. This man must be fond of fishing."

You see at least one spider on the watch for our human blue-bottle. But he, happy in not knowing his coming unhappiness, smoked his cigar with a new relish as he sauntered in his garden the next morning. All at once he perceives that his domain, which has two gates towards the Villeneuve road, has no outlet at all towards the Seine. How, then, did the former owners of Folie Margot get down to the river? Pooh! The reason was simple. They could not have cared about fishing. M. Maes lost no time in sending for a mason, but no sooner was a breach made in the wall, than it disclosed the figure of that obliging neighbour Nicolas Merrain, who with his former

unctuous politeness is charmed to think that M. Maes will enjoy having a door that opens on the river, because M. Maes is an excellent man, and he, Nicolas Merrain, who of all things dislikes the idea of being a bad neighbour, had been constrained to build up a similar door which had been made by the former proprietors of Folie Margot. "This fellow built up a door like mine?" said M. Maes to himself. "Then I can only go to the river by his indulgence. How is it my notary did not acquaint me with this?" But he prudently suppressed his annoyance, and, afraid to offend a man who could put a veto on his fishing, accepted his proposition to furnish him with a door and fit it up.

The weeks rolled on, and M. Maes, in the enjoyment of uninterrupted fishing, forgot his momentary annoyance at his subjection to Nicolas Merrain. He avoided all advances towards acquaintance made by neighbouring proprietors, for what company can do more for you than a carp, which serves as your amusement one day, and your dinner the next? One morning, as he was angling opposite to a boat in which one of his neighbours came to fish with a regularity equal to his own, he became aware that he had hooked a tremendously heavy fish. At the same moment his *vis-à-vis* perceived his bait dragged with the same force. The prey was a carp weighing twenty pounds, and of corresponding voracity, for it had swallowed both baits at once. Now ensued a contest of politeness, each being quite sure that the fish belonged to his neighbour. At length the unknown rival consented to accept the fish on condition that M. Maes would come and partake of it at his table. The stranger, we see, had hooked two heavy fish at once.

On returning home the vexation of having made an acquaintance in spite of himself, was not at all alleviated for M. Maes by his receiving a bill of three hundred francs from Nicolas Merrain, for putting up his new door. Three hundred francs for a door not worth ten! But Nicolas Merrain must not be offended, so M. Maes paid the three hundred francs, inwardly resolving that he would let his neighbour have nothing to do with the building of a new summer-house which he contemplates in the highest part of his pleasure-grounds. The next day our Belgian betakes himself, according to engagement, to the house of his new acquaintance, M. Cornillard (who is no less a personage than the receiver-general), on the opposite bank of the river. While the carp is going through the last stages of the culinary mysteries, the two proprietors walk amongst the flowers, discussing, like other well-bred persons whose acquaintance is only beginning, a variety of subjects of which they are mutually ignorant, until at last they arrive at the perfectly lucid question, "I think we are neither of us married?" Note well that this question was put by M. Cornillard. "I am not married," said M. Maes, "because I love liberty, and hate children. If a child were to break one of my cups of Dresden china, I think I should break its head." "But suppose you were to take the precaution of having no Dresden china?" "Give up china and have children! You are joking." "Then you should see if it would not be possible to marry and keep the china without having children. The thing is possible; the age of your wife might reconcile everything." At this moment a formidable voice cried through a speaking-trumpet, "The dinner is ready, uncle!" "My niece calls us," said M. Cornillard. "You will see her—a charming person; not absolutely young, but with admirable qualities." On entering the dining-room, M. Maes started to see a bony figure, six feet high, on the confines of five-and-forty, with a nose which would have made an excellent finger to a sun-dial. This divinity, whose name was Palmyre, wielded, as a symbolic sceptre, a feather brush by way of duster. During dinner, Mademoiselle Palmyre, who had been hitherto silent, suddenly rose, and pounced, brush in hand, on M. Maes's coat-collar. The pacific Belgian thought she had described a venomous insect. No! It was a grain of dust. "Ah," said Cornillard, "Mimire has such a passion for cleanliness. She dusts the very trees. You, too, who are Belgian, must love cleanliness." On conducting his neighbour home in the evening, M. Cornillard observed, "Now the acquaintance is made, I hope we shall see each other sometimes." "Very often," replied M. Maes, meaning "as seldom as possible." You see there is another spider spreading his web for our unconscious blue-bottle.

M. Maes, a little hastened by a spirit of vengeance towards Nicolas Merrain, proceeded forthwith to the construction of his summer-house. Nicolas saw everything, but seemed to see nothing, though every plank he had not furnished entered into his soul. The only change observable in him was that he redoubled his politeness, and that he avoided passing through M. Maes's ground to his own, choosing rather to make a long circuit, or to reach it by the river. One morning, as the Belgian, bent on fishing, had set his foot outside the door on Merrain's ground, he was meekly requested to observe that he was treading on cultivated soil—on land dedicated to carrots and turnips, and that he had no right to pass. M. Maes got angry. Nicolas remained honey-sweet, but firm, and in the end M. Maes did not proceed to the river, but went instead, fuming, to his notary, who was unable to deny that Nicolas was standing on a real right. An advocate is next consulted, who advises M. Maes to compromise the matter. After a struggle, the obese Belgian ire gives way, and Nicholas Merrain is asked what sum he will accept for his contemptible piece of ground. "Ten thousand francs, without abatement." The Belgian ire rises again, in spite of obesity, and M. Maes turns his back on Nicolas, observing, with anything but friendly significance, "that they shall meet again." The dispute had meanwhile become the talk of the neighbourhood. Wherever the unhappy M. Maes appeared, there was always some one at hand to say, "That is M. Maes, who is at law with Nicolas Merrain." Such was the cruel position of the man who had come to Folie Margot in the hope of peace and quietness and unlimited fishing! He unbosomed his sorrows to his neighbour Cornillard, who told him that Merrain would not have dared to behave so to a Frenchman. M. Maes, as a stranger, lacked the sympathies of the neighbourhood. "If you were only a Frenchman, or married to a Frenchwoman—" "He is talking about marriage again," thought M. Maes; "can he want me to marry his niece? Never, never!" he groaned, as he walked away with despair in his soul. For two months he confined himself within his own grounds, and it was all the while the most magnificent weather for fishing. The very carp seemed to taunt him as he watched them from his summer-house, while they bounded in the river.

One morning he could endure it no longer. He seized his line, marched defiantly through Merrain's ground, jumped into his boat, and had an ecstatic day of fishing. On reaching home a summons was handed to him. A summons! Nicolas Merrain had seen all. M. Maes consulted another advocate, who discovered that the Commune had the power of reclaiming the fatal strip of ground on the payment of a slight indemnity to Merrain. But how was the Commune to be induced to take this step in which it had no real interest? A new mayor was to be elected in a week; M. Maes must be that mayor, and he could then obtain what he pleased of the Commune. "But," urged M. Maes, "no one in the Commune knows me." "Yes; you have just told me that M. Cornillard, the receiver-general, knows you. He is omnipotent over the municipal council. Apply to him." The advocate was ready to aid M. Maes in the matter, because he dreaded being elected mayor himself. Time pressed, so M. Maes hurried to the receiver-general, who found the idea an excellent one, and was ready to give his services. But one good turn deserves another. M. Cornillard has a niece, fit to constitute the happiness of any man. He will make a present of her to M. Maes, whom he will be delighted to have for a nephew. "But I had sworn never to marry?" "People always come to that in the end." "Nevertheless, you yourself—" "I am a widower for the second time. Still, nothing obliges you to marry Palmyre." "But if I don't marry her I shall not be mayor, and if I am not mayor—O mon Dieu!" M. Maes asked three days for decision. To avoid marrying Palmyre he even brought himself to call on Nicolas Merrain and offer him the ten thousand francs. They were refused: it was clear to Nicolas that the slip of ground had risen in value. M. Maes, furious, wrote to M. Cornillard that he accepted Mlle. Palmyre with her feather brush.

A few days later, M. Maes became mayor and the husband of Mlle. Palmyre. Nicolas Merrain's ground was claimed by the municipality, and was converted by the mayor into a public washing-ground. Nicolas turned pale for an instant. But a short time afterwards it was stated in the newspapers that a terrible outrage had been committed on the property of M. Maes, a rich Belgian. Trees had been torn up by the roots, walls pulled down, the roof of the house taken completely off. M. Maes and his wife had only escaped by a miracle from the malefactors, who had hitherto succeeded in eluding the inquiries of justice. Six months after this catastrophe, Folie Margot was sold by auction, and had become the property of a certain speculator in purchases at forced sales, named Nicolas Merrain.

M. Maes and his charming spouse had set out for Java. The blue-bottle had ceased even to struggle, and the spiders were triumphant.

#### RICHARD CROMWELL.

*The History of Richard Cromwell and the Restoration of Charles the Second.* By M. Guizot. Translated by A. B. Scoble. 2 vols. Bentley.

M. Guizot is an austere critic of history. When the English Revolution verged towards its decline, and when the politicians of the Commonwealth, divided, exhausted, betrayed, beheld the re-establishment of the monarchy, which destroyed their hopes, their illusions, their authority, and their position, he sees in the event a divine vengeance upon the wicked and the feeble. Regarding the past from the watch-tower of his ascetic philosophy, he writes with such emphasis that he resembles a retired and disappointed statesman upbraiding his contemporaries. It is, he says, a melancholy but instructive study to observe the anguish of those men who have been powerful and triumphant, but, overtaken by retribution for their errors, are detested by the people as tyrants, or derided as visionaries. "Stricken at once with powerlessness and bitter surprise, they burn with indignation against their country, which they accuse of cowardice and ingratitude, and struggle vainly beneath the hand of God, whose chastisements they are unable to withstand." This is the exordium of his story. But, at the close, the fall of the Commonwealth is employed to point another moral—that though a dissimulating soldier may place a king upon the throne, though illuminations may illustrate the public joy, and though, after mighty efforts and sacrifices, the work of years, accomplished by a great nation, may seem to be undone, the re-erection of a dynasty is only the eclipse, and not the extinction of the revolutionary principle. The Revolution, considered from M. Guizot's point of view, was a protest against the influence of the Roman Catholic Church, and against the irresponsible authority of the king. It signified that the English people was determined to establish the principles of the Reformation, and to govern itself. These ideas, for which it took up arms in 1640, it believed had been fulfilled in 1660. But the struggle had only been transferred from Naseby to Westminster, from Marston Moor to the hustings. The Revolution was cursed by a bewildered public opinion, and public opinion immediately renewed its pursuit of those objects which had given vitality and purpose to the Revolution. Such, as it extends through his volumes, is the argument of M. Guizot. It is, probably, intended to suggest a parallel, the result of which would be that, in a state which has once enjoyed liberty, there may be the possibility of a dictator, but there is no possibility of a dictator's son. It may be that when Oliver Cromwell died, his power was on the wane. He had provoked enemies and rivals; he had lost friends; he had failed to satisfy the fanatical; he had refused to purchase the corrupt. And the multitude, the numberless, and the nameless, belonging to no party, solicitous for no principle, impelled by successive and conflicting emotions, who had felt safe under the domination of the Protector, desired, at his death, another fixed government, which would respect their peace and provide for their security, and thought they had found it in the restored royalty of Charles the Second. That restoration was accomplished at a time when the Royalists, who were chiefly interested in its success, stood aloof and inert, "waiting until God and necessity should put the king once more in the place of this chaos." So far from gaining victories, they not recently fought a battle. They had been slaughtered in the civil war, their conspiracies had been detected, their insurrections quelled; they had yielded to Presbyterians, to Republicans, and to Cromwell; yet, when Monk declared for the Stuart cause, these baffled Cavaliers found themselves celebrating a triumph, with the timid, the hypocritical, the rank-and-file of all parties coming over to their side.

The causes of the infatuated reaction which placed the Stuarts a second time on the English throne are explained in this sense by M. Guizot. He allows some importance, also, to the personal character of Richard, a man unfitted for government, who might have been a respectable hereditary king, with responsible ministers, but who never acted with vigour, except, it would seem, when seized by the idea, habitual to men who govern by virtue of an inherited glory, that he must copy his father. M. de Bordeaux, writing to Mazarin, says, "He has, in imitation of the deceased Protector, spent some days in prayer." In his fitful contests with the parliament he appeared to be harassed by the notion that he should break down if he did not exert the vigour and decision of his predecessor; and, when he made the attempt, *casually* chose the wrong method, and stopped short in time for failure. His want of will was probably owing, in part, to his original want of ambition. He was acclimated to state authority and grandeur in the palaces of Hampton and Whitehall. Before Oliver had made him a privy-councillor Richard enjoyed a free and rural life, kept up a stud, gave jovial parties, paid little attention to political affairs, was hospitable to the Cavaliers, was idle by day, and, says M. Guizot, somewhat debauched by night, and even drank the health of "the landlord," when a toast to the Stuarts was illegal. He went to Whitehall at his father's invitation, and, when his father died, became Lord Protector at the invitation of his father's councillors. Upon succeeding to the dignity and the power he was not inclined to part with either, and being in want of funds, sought to postpone the assembling of a parliament which might be troublesome, by requesting a loan of fifty thousand pounds from the French king. The French king, under the advice of Mazarin, declined it, pleading poverty. But Richard's sister and brother-in-law—Lord and Lady Faulconbridge—were more humble in their desires, and took small gratuities from the French minister—some jewels for the lady and two Barbary horses for the lord:—

Thus, within three months after the death of Cromwell, his son, the apparent inheritor of his power, had applied in vain to Mazarin for assistance to maintain himself, and his son-in-law and daughter were receiving bribes from the Cardinal, and promising faithfully to serve him. The downfall is rapid when tottering greatness is not sustained by virtue.

Richard Cromwell, embarrassed at home, saw nothing but confusion abroad. Sweden was at war with Poland, with a league of the German princes, with Holland and Denmark. The new Protector was urged by his own advisers, as well as by Mazarin, to support Sweden, as Oliver would have supported her; but Richard hesitated and delayed, sent out a fleet "to mediate," recalled it, and, finally, deserted his father's policy. Next, after a fatal display of irresolution, he was induced to summon a parliament, and with that parliament he sometimes acted in concert, sometimes contended, but always in an irregular, incautious, purposeless manner. At last, when the parliamentary institutions of the country had regained their position, when the authority of the Protector was denied, and when the Council of War proposed to act independently of him and the parliament, he feebly rehearsed a part prepared for him by his councillors:—

The Protector's advisers endeavoured to induce him to emulate the firmness which the House had displayed. "Join in with the Parliament," said Lord Broghill, "and dissolve the council of officers." "How shall I do it?" asked Richard. "If you please," answered Broghill, "I will draw up a short speech for you, and to-morrow morning go to the Council, where, after an hour's sitting among them, you must stand up and speak it." Richard consented, and on the following day, at about ten o'clock, he proceeded to Wallingford House, and took his seat among the officers, some of whom were pleased, and others made anxious, by his presence. After listening attentively to their debates for about an hour, he suddenly rose, and thus addressed them: "Gentlemen, I accept of your service with all thankfulness. I have considered what does most aggrieve you, and think the best and properest way to redress what is amiss amongst you, is to do it in the Parliament now sitting, of which many of you are members, where I will see things righted; and I therefore declare my commission for holding this Council to be now void, and the Council dissolved, and desire you to go to your several commands."

Here was an opportunity to join the parliament, suppress the military factions, and govern the nation with spirit and liberality. The Protector's speech, composed by Lord Broghill, had silenced the malcontents. But he went no further, and the opposition, resuming courage and activity, almost openly defied his power.

"It is time to look about you," said Lord Howard: "empire and command are not now the question. Your person, your life, are in peril: you are the son of Cromwell, show yourself worthy to be his son. This business requires a bold stroke, and must be supported by a good head. Do not suffer yourself to be daunted. Fleetwood, Lambert, Desborough, and Vane are the contrivers of all this. I will rid you of them; do you stand by me, and only back my seal for your honour with your name; my head shall answer for the consequence." Ingoldsby added his entreaties to those of Howard, and offered to become personally responsible for Lambert, who was considered their most dangerous enemy. Richard was racked by painful perplexity. "I have never done any body any harm," he said, "and never will; I will not have a drop of blood spilt for the preservation of my greatness, which is a burden to me."

This was an amiable resolve, quite in harmony with Richard's character, but he might have been energetic without being cruel. He asked Monk to protect him, and Monk knew he was not worth protecting. Thus Richard passed through the various gradations of his fall, until he was forced to stipulate the terms of abdication and received, with the grant of a pension, peremptory orders to leave the state residences at Hampton and Whitehall. Even then he lingered in the palaces, retreating from Whitehall to Hampton, and, only after much wistful and weak delay, stubbornly and bitterly abandoned the remnants of Oliver's glory.

But M. Guizot does not insist upon one point which helps to explain the failures of Richard Cromwell. He was second in the line; the nation was not disposed to be governed any longer by a protector, or a dictator. Before his capacity for government had been tried, limitations of his authority were proposed. Both the civil and military classes repelled the idea of an exclusive and arbitrary administration. When his first parliament met, a majority of the Commons refused to attend the ushers' summons to the bar of the Lords to hear the Protectoral speech. These, and many other signs of the change that had taken place, speedily became visible. The people had

struggled for a free government, the army had not fought for the ascendancy of a man who was not conqueror, or even a soldier. The parliament had not contended, for years, for the sake of a man who, having shared in none of the heat and burdens of the civil wars, evinced at the outset his antipathy to parliamentary influence. England had outgrown the Protectorate as it had outgrown the Star Chamber. It fell afterwards into the abasement of the Restoration, because its political leaders were fanatical or selfish, and because the people, unable to help themselves, and seeing none to help them, accepted the old royalty as the refuge of their disgust and exhaustion.

M. Guizot's historical views of this remarkable, but melancholy period, are full of interest and originality. They bear always the colour of the writer's peculiar mind; we never forget that it is M. Guizot, philosopher and ex-minister, a royalist in retirement, who judges between the conflicting parties of the Commonwealth. His *Life of Richard Cromwell*, however, is less in the form of an essay than some of his earlier historical works. The narrative, in general, is close; the disquisitions are few; the criticism is not, we think, sufficiently minute to secure a solid historical basis. Some of his own statements are qualified by expressions of reserve; many are put forward with too much confidence, on the authority of M. de Bordeaux, a wily diplomatist, who may have been interested, at times, in deceiving Mazarin, as he wished to deceive, or, more strictly, to blind the English government. Of Mazarin's letters there are eight specimens in M. Guizot's voluminous appendix; of Bordeaux's, more than a hundred. The French ambassador was in the habit of chronicling his actions, week by week, for the information of his master. When Oliver died, he would not put on mourning or attend the funeral, without the permission of his government. At the funeral, a difficulty arose:—

The ambassadors had some dispute with the envoys of Sweden because they claimed to occupy the same rank as the rest, and not to be treated as subaltern ministers, basing their claim on the honourable position which the King their master gave to the envoy of England, and also on the ground that, as they were legates extraordinary, they were entitled to equal consideration with the ambassador of Holland. The Commissioners appointed to arrange the ceremony had deferred to their wishes by placing them immediately after the Dutch ambassador, and before the Keepers of the Great Seal of England; but it was necessary for me to follow the precedent established at the funeral of King James, and to contest this equality; the Keepers of the Seal, on their part, refused to be preceded by any but ambassadors; but finally, after many negotiations, they gave way, though protesting against the like being done in future; and I was entreated to withdraw my opposition, if, in order to mark the difference between the Swedish ministers and the ambassadors (without, however, doing them any other wrong than displacing them from a rank which had been improperly accorded to them), the master of the ceremonies and his officers took their places between them and us; to which I consented. There was also some slight altercation between the other ambassadors and myself, because I wished to walk alone, and not between the representatives of Portugal and Holland, who finally acceded to my desire. The first dispute was, to some extent, the cause of the ceremony not being terminated until night, and, as this contingency had not been anticipated, there was not a single candle in Westminster Abbey to give light to the company and conduct the effigy into a sort of *chapelle ardente* which had been prepared; there were consequently neither prayers, nor sermon, nor funeral oration, and after the trumpets had sounded for a short time, every one withdrew in no particular order.

This is an example of M. de Bordeaux's manner. Another punctilio respecting the number of musketeers and members of parliament who were to escort him to an audience, brought on a secret menace of war; but proceedings were stayed by a compromise—that happy invention.

#### THE TRAVELS OF AN AUSTRALIAN.

*Diary of Travels in Three Quarters of the Globe.* By an Australian Settler. 2 vols. Saunders and Otley.

The "Australian Settler," though he travelled in three of the great divisions of the globe, writes some of his most entertaining chapters on the way between Yulgilbar, on the Clarence River, and Sydney. Of Yulgilbar itself we could wish he had said more, for his few paragraphs concerning that "location" are interesting and suggestive. It is beautifully placed, he tells us, and beautifully adorned, we may imagine, from the sketch of his own cottage, encircled by gardens and vineyards, with its thatched roof buried in cedar shade, pastures and arable meadows around, and an outline of forests or purple hills on every side. The white cedars, planted by his own hands, had flourished within fourteen years into "stately, spreading trees." And besides one melancholy reminiscence, this is all we learn of Yulgilbar, or of the scattered settlements spread along the valleys of the Australian rivers. From Merton, along the Vale of the Hunter, on the direct route to Sydney, he saw unmistakable evidences of the strange effects produced in some of the colonial districts by the discovery of gold:—

Formerly, the traveller returning from the wide solitudes and scattered stations of the great squatting districts of the interior, feasted his eyes, and felt his heart gladdened, by the evidences of civilisation, and signs of life and activity which everywhere met his view in passing down this fine valley of the Dartbrook. At every four or five miles near homesteads, surrounded and embellished by fruitful orchards, and spacious flower-gardens tastefully laid out and nicely kept, gave evidence of prosperity and content, whilst luxuriant vineyards, well-tilled fields, and numerous corn stacks, attested the fertility and productiveness of the soil. All this has sadly changed during the last three years. The discovery of the gold mines, and consequent rush to the diggings, have converted this once smiling scene to one of ruin and desolation. Deserted houses, gardens choked with weeds, and broken fences, now everywhere meet the eye and depress the spirits.

The "Settler" complains that the pictorial aspects of Melbourne are diminished by the use of a dark volcanic stone in the erection of churches and public edifices, and of iron shops and storehouses. But it was not the object of his journey to collect notes for a description of Australia; he had Ceylon, the Crimea, and Egypt in view. To Ceylon, therefore, he went, and he records his visit in some light and pleasant chapters. Hence, proceeding by the general route to Suez, he was now enabled to compare his knowledge of the new-born society of Australia with the traces of that mysterious system, antique and sacred, which cast into one mould the lives, habits, and thoughts of the Egyptian people. He saw also the blending of

Oriental with Frankish manners at Cairo and Alexandria, and of course did not fail to climb outside and dive inside the Pyramids. But the greatest novelty to an Australian—a trip to the Crimea—was yet to come. On the plateau before Sebastopol, all he heard and witnessed confirmed the statements of the English press relating to the sufferings of the army, and the inadequacy of preparations and supplies. Relieving this sad and tumultuous picture by a rapid excursion in Italy, the "Australian Settler" brings his narrative to a close, and disappears on Southampton water. He writes without affectation, and for colonial readers his Eastern and European sketches will possess a peculiar interest. Among the English public his parting glances at Australia will secure attention.

## The Arts.

### THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

The best of the three exhibitions now open is at the Gallery in Suffolk-street. A still more encouraging fact than supremacy—for, after all, it is not much to assert that the Suffolk-street exhibitors have beaten their rivals in Regent-street and Pall-mall—is the internal proof of an advancing power given this year by the Society of British Artists. In landscape most especially, but also in homely natural subjects, combining landscape and figures, we discern far more independence, freshness, and force of hand than a proportionate area of painting shows elsewhere. In mere portraiture—a branch of art which is altogether *taboo* at the academical British Institution, but which is allowed to run wild at the other Institution, called, by way of emphatic distinctiveness, National—there is much that is worth notice in Suffolk-street. Mr. HURLSTONE, the president, would do better, leaving private patronage out of the question, if he would stick to subject-painting, and forsake portraits; but even he is more successful than he has yet been in making his likenesses like life, as well as like the "sitters." We were most pleased by his "Portraits of Daughters of Captain Hopwood, of Hopwood"—in reduced circumstances, we suppose, as the young ladies are picturesquely attired in rags, and without shoes or stockings. In Mr. HURLSTONE's principal work, "Tenants of the Forum Romanum in the Nineteenth Century," there are his usual faults of outline and eccentricities of colour; but we pardon all for the sake of the living expression in the faces. There is nothing more animated in the gallery than the features of these Italian children; unless, indeed, it be the glance of one of the little barefoot Miss Hopwoods, of Hopwood, already mentioned. Better portraits than HURLSTONE's are those by J. Z. BELL, who has an excellent likeness of FARADAY; and even by BUCKNER, who gives a fine full-length, which, though it has a name attached, will be most generally recognised as the portrait "of a lady." In this bold and striking representation of a modern DIANA—considered with reference merely to the chase, for which she is killingly attired—Mr. BUCKNER has felt the extraordinary greatness of his subject, and has risen with the occasion. He has never painted a more life-like piece of coquettish and victorious beauty.

The privileged WOOLMER, who sends his usual contribution of undressed (or undressing) demoiselles, ventures besides on holy ground, and exhibits an altar-piece after WATTEAU. We confess that criticism, in this instance, lies beyond our powers. An appeal to the imagination being necessary, where description halts, we will request anyone to conjure up the image of M. JULLIEN, in a dressing-gown, sitting in the foreground of one of those fairy dolls which the PAXTON of Wellington-street, BEVERLEY, used to lay out for the Lyceum public to ramble in. MILTON and ST. MARIE will materially assist in carrying out the idea thus suggested.

The "Return from the Ball—Sunrise," painted in WOOLMER's accustomed and secular style, is a subject better adapted to his capricious pencil. A lady unrobing in her sunlit chamber prettily embodies the not very novel idea. We have had the sentiment, and the lady, and the brocade slipping down from the gossamer under-clothes, and the white satin stays that indicate the satisfactory roundness of the waist and hips, and the orange-tawny background, and the lap-dog (we forgot his place in this particular picture, but he must be there, somewhere about the middle), and the toilet-table with its perfume-bottles and nick-nacks, and in and upon the lady herself, all the lace and loveliness that heart could long for,—we have had these

things from Mr. WOOLMER again and again; but so long as he continues thrusting them upon our acceptance, we shall take them kindly, provided they come unmixed with bad English translations of the scenery and sentiment in *Paradis Perdu* or any other scriptural drama from the *Amiens Comique*.

NOBLE, who is almost as artificial, in his own way, as WOOLMER, has never yet made the mistake of stepping beyond his proper ground. Of his ten contributions, we will name the smallest as being every way the best. It is so good that, had we seen it on the walls of the Royal Academy, we should have taken it for a work of LESLIE'S. As the picture is very small, and is badly hung near the ground, it may be necessary to call attention to it by the number in the catalogue—212. It is entitled "The Album."

We find that we have left out truer and better artists than those last mentioned, and we are sorry that shortness of space compels us to generalise where we would rather point to special signs of merit. HENZELL, for instance, demands a paragraph to himself—a paragraph that should be full of praise for the present, and of encouragement for future efforts. No artist has more distinguished himself, in the last few years, by steady and continued advance. The group of figures "On the Welsh Coast" will justify the opinion we have ventured to record of HENZELL. In pastoral scenes, COBBETT still holds place; and BAXTER, hardly so successful in his subjects as last year, has more than one blossom of womanhood to win our thanks and admiration. Landscapes by WEST, PYNE, DANBY, BODDINGROX, WILLIAMS, and other painters rising into fame as deservedly high as theirs, make up a great—perhaps the greatest—portion of the display. When we think of the thousands of human souls bricked up in this labyrinth of civilisation; when we think, too, of those noble passages in *Alton Locke*, where the author, speaking through his hero, thanks the great and glorious modern landscape painters of England for bringing their fresh spoils and laying them, as it were, at the feet of those who are hungering for beauty and for nature, we the more painfully feel the want of a National Gallery that shall not belie its title.

### THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The *Elisir d'Amore* was produced at the LYCEUM Opera House on Thursday evening. It is just the proper kind of opera for the *bijou* theatre which now does duty for the vast and stately Covent Garden, being light, airy, and melodious. When we say that RONCONI performed *Dulcamara*—a piece of acting inimitable for its humouristic genius—that GARDONI sustained the part of *Neurino*—and that, as a final charm, Madame BOSIO, recovered from her illness, made her first appearance at the theatre as *Adina*,—we need add nothing to convince the reader that the gratification of the audience was great.

We are able, by the way, to confirm, on good authority, the report that it is at least highly probable that "the old house" will be rebuilt. The Duke of BEDFORD is understood to desire it; and we are informed that so much of the skeleton of the theatre remains in a perfectly uninjured state that the expense of re-erection will be much less than was at first supposed. Among the contemplated improvements is to be a covered carriage-road from the Piazza right into the body of the building, in order that ladies may be set down close to their boxes without exposure to weather, or the risk of hurting, by our humid climate, what MOLIERE's fop calls "the embouchure of the feathers." There will also be a magnificent concert-room of very large dimensions.

A Mr. CHARLES DILLON has been making his appearance at SADLER'S WELLS, in the part of *Belphegor*, the Mountebank, in an English version of the French drama of *Paillasse*—a part first made celebrated by M. FREDERIC LEMAITRE, and Anglicized by MR. WEBSTER, who some years ago performed it at the Adelphi. Mr. DILLON, who has previously made a small celebrity in the provinces, received the ratification of an Islington audience.

Mr. CHARLES KEAN announces the *Winter's Tale*, with his usual attention to spectacle. He proposes to give an ancient Greek element to the costumes, scenery, &c., instead of the mediæval character generally adopted. We confess we were startled with this at first; but there are some good reasons in its favour. The truth is, however, that the play is anomalous in all such matters; and "whichever you please, my little dears," might be the rule.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

#### BIRTHS.

ARBOTT.—On the 5th ult., at Tabreez, Persia, the Lady of Keith Edward Abbott, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul: a son.

THYNNE.—On the 21st inst., at Harefield, near Southwark, the Lady Edward Thynne: a son, stillborn.

TANCRED.—On the 21st inst., at Tillington, near Petworth, Lady Tancred: a son.

#### MARRIAGES.

CLARK—HAFFENDEN.—On the 13th of February, at Bangalore, Octavius Clark, of the Mysore Commission, to Matilda, eldest daughter of Thomas Haffenden, Esq., of Hanwell, Middlesex.

PRICE—DAVIES.—On the 1st inst., at St. Thomé Church, Madras, Lieut. E. T. W. Price, 30th Regiment, M.N.I., second surviving son of the Rev. C. P. Price, M.A., vicar of Uxbridge, Middlesex, to Georgina Caroline, second daughter of the late Captain A. Davies, R.N., and grand-niece of Admiral Horatio first Viscount Nelson.

PRIESTLEY—CHAMBERS.—On the 17th inst., at No. 1, Dounre-terrace, Edinburgh, by the Very Reverend the Bishop of Edinburgh, William Overend Priestley, Esq., M.D., of No. 16, Somerset-street, Portman-square, London, to Eliza, daughter of Robert Chambers, Esq.

SAUNDERS—FLETCHER.—On the 20th inst., at Christ Church, Ealing, Mr. Henry James Saunders, of Wimbleton, Surrey, to Catherine, eldest daughter of Mr. John Fletcher, Old Brentford, Middlesex.

#### DEATHS.

HIGGINS.—On Sunday the 13th inst., at Kilburn, Middlesex, Mr. Francis Higgins, aged 75, grandson of the Rev. John Butler, LL.D., late rector of Wallington, Hertfordshire, and great nephew of Jacob Butler, Esq., barrister-at-law, late of Gray's-inn, London, and Barnwell Abbey, Cambridgeshire. Deceased was nearly 60 years in the Hydrographical Office, Admiralty.

SMITH.—On the 21st inst., at 46, Weymouth-street, Portland-Place, Mrs. Kennard Smith, in her 80th year.

PAPILLON.—On the 21st inst., at Sandgate, after a short illness, Frances, fourth daughter of the late Thomas Papillon, Esq., of Acrise-place, Kent.

HENSLEY.—On the 21st inst., at Kerry, Montgomeryshire, Frances Mary Anne, the beloved wife of the Rev. Alfred Hensley, and eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Morgan, vicar of that parish, aged 26.

GILL.—On the 21st inst., at the residence of his son-in-law, George Moorsom, Esq., Thomas Gill, Esq., aged 84, for upwards of 20 years Chairman of the Committee of Mechanics in the Society of Arts.

#### FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, April 22.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—JOHN LOWE, Chetwynd Aston, Salop, malster.

BANKRUPT.—CHARLES STEWART DUNCAN, 9, Charing-cross, Middlesex, dealer in cutlery.—THOMAS PYRKE, Ghylls, Essex, linendraper.—JOHN MERLIN, 4, Coleman-street, City,

commission merchant.—PERCIVAL FORBES JENKINS, Hunter's Arms Public-house, 11, Compton-street, Brunswick-square, St. Pancras, licensed victualler.—JOSEPH WHIELDON PRICE, Wolverhampton, commission agent and oil merchant.—WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Huddersfield, Stafford, liverpool stable keeper.—JOSEPH TAYLOR, Wall Heath, Kingswinford, Stafford, licensed victualler.—SAMUEL SMITH PHILLIPS, Cardiff, licensed victualler.—EDWARD ROWE and EDWARD ROWE, the younger, Penzance, Cornwall, stationers.—WILLIAM GARSTANG and THOMAS GARSTANG, Wigan, Lancaster, coal dealers.—SAMUEL WHITTAKER, Manchester, licensed victualler.—GEORGE CUREDALE, Burnley, Lancaster, gunfurniture.—SCOTCH BANKRUPT.—ROBERT GOURLIE, Motherwell, grocer and provision merchant.

Friday, April 25.

BANKRUPT.—FOSTER REYNOLDS, Broad-street, City, silk merchant.—CHARLES LONG, King-street, Portman-square, house decorator.—GEORGE CLEMENTAIN, jun., Crawford-street, Mincing-lane, plumber.—JOHN B. FOLKARD, 69, Jermyn-street, St. James, Westminster, tailor.—JAMES SANDIFORD, Hinckley, Leicestershire, draper and mercer.—WILLIAM HENRY WOODFORTH and JAMES FREDERICK SANDIFORD, Hinckley, Leicestershire, draper and mercer.—JOHN STYLES, Putney, waterman.—JOHN HALDANE, brassfounder.—THOMAS WILLIAMS, Winstone, Birmingham, factor.—CHARLES CLARK, Birmingham, factor.—SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—WILLIAM ROBERTSON, Glasgow, contractor.—JOHN HAY, Glasgow, wine and spirit merchant.—GAVIN EOLINTON, Glasgow, grocer.—JOHN MCORINDALE, Gariochhead, steamboat steward.—WILLIAM ROY, jun., and Co., Cross Arthurie Print Works, Barrhead, calico printers.

## Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, April 25, 1856.

The grand "Naval Review" emptied London during the early part of the week of commercial men; and hardly any business transactions on the Stock Exchange have occurred.

The dearth of money and the heavy bull account cause all the markets to be very flat. Belgian and French shares are much worse. Joint Stock Banks and the new schemes in railways, are inactive—Mining Shares are greatly depressed.

Consols are about 93 and a downward tendency. Most people seem to have concluded that a dissolution will take place before the Whitsuntide holidays, and this has a lowering effect on the markets.

At four o'clock Consols close 92½.

Aberdeen, 26, 27; Bristol and Exeter, 85, 90; Caledonian, 194, 60; Chester and Holyhead, 14, 15; East Anglian, 164, 174; Eastern Counties, 94, 104; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 60, 62; Great Northern, 93, 94; Ditto, A stock, 78, 79; Ditto, B stock, 124, 126; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 102, 104; Great Western, 61, 62; Lancaster and Carlisle, 70, 75; Ditto, Thirds, 6, 7; Ditto, New Thirds, 54, 64; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 87, 88; London and Blackwall, 74, 75; London Brighton, and South Coast, 102, 104; London and North-Western, 100, 104; London and South-Western, 94, 95; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 28, 28; Metropolitan, 3, 3 d.; Midland, 73, 74; Ditto, Birmingham, and Derby, 43, 45; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 14, 15; North Eastern (Berwick), 76, 77; Ditto, Extension, 6, 54 d.; Ditto, Great North Eastern Purchase, 34, 3; Ditto, Leeds, 154, 155; Ditto, York, 55, 56; North Staffordshire, 64, 6 d.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 27, 28; Scottish Central, 104, 106; Scottish Midland, 75, 77; South Devon, 15, 16; South Eastern (Dover), 71, 72; South Wales, 72, 73; Vale of Neath, 193, 204; West Cornwall, 64, 71; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 84; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 41, 41; East Indian, 234, 24; Ditto, Extension, 234, 24; Grand Trunk of Canada, 71, 71 d.; Great Central of France, 9, 94 pm.; Great Indian Peninsula, 224, 24; Luxembourg, 64, 7; Great Western of Canada, 238, 26 x. d.; Namur and Liege, 7, 7; Northern of France, 42, 42; Paris and Lyons, 561, 562; Paris and Orleans, 54, 56 x. d.; Sambre and Meuse, 12, 124.

## CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, April 25, 1856.

ARRIVALS of all kinds of Grain into London continue very moderate and the demand has improved. Monday's rates are fully maintained, and for the better qualities in some instances exceeded by 1s. per qr. There are two or three cargoes of hard Syrian Wheat off the Coast, for which 42s. is asked. A cargo of Saidi has been sold at 38s. cost, freight and insurance, and several cargoes of fine Danube Maize on passage at 29s. 6d. cost, freight and insurance. Barley remains firm at former rates, and the arrivals of Oats having been pretty nearly disposed of, buyers are not able to supply themselves on quite such good terms as could have been obtained on Monday. Beans and Peas are unaltered in value.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.  
(CLOSING PRICES)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	213	212	213	214	212	212
3 per Cent. Red.....	92½	92	91½	92	92	92
3 per Cent. Con. An. ....	93½	93	93½	93	93	93
Consols for Account.....	93½	93	93½	93	93	93
New 3 per Cent. An. ....	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
New 2 per Centas. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860.....	3 3-16	3 3-16	3 3-16	34	3 3-16	3 3-16
India Stock.....	231	228	227	227	227	227
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.
Ditto, under £1000.....	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	2 d.	2 d.	par	par	3 d.	par
Ditto, £500.....	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	3 d.	par
Ditto, Small.....	3 d.	3 d.	par	par	.....	par

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	100	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ....	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents. ....	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents. ....	.....
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	184	Russian 44 per Cents. ....	95
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	60	Spanish	44½
Dutch 24 per Cent. ....	64	Spanish Committee Cer. ....	93
Dutch 4 per Cent. Cert. ....	93	of Coup, not fun. ....	.....
Ecuador Bonds.....	154	Turkish 6 per Cents. ....	98
Mexican Account.....	22	Turkish New, 4 ditto. ....	101½
Peruvian 44 per Cents. ....	77	Venezuela, 44 per Cents. ....	101½

**THEATRE ROYAL OLYMPIC.**—Under the Management of Mr. ALFRED WIGAN. On Monday, and during the week, will be presented the new and original comedy of STILL WATERS RUN DEEP (as performed before the Queen, at Windsor Castle). John Mildmay, Mr. Alfred Wigan; Mrs. Hector Sternhold, Mrs. Alfred Wigan. To conclude with the Fairy Extravaganza of THE DISCREET PRINCESS; or, The Three Glass Distaffs. Prince Bierchraft, Mr. F. Robson; Prince Belzovir, Miss Maskell; King Gander, Mr. Emery; Finetta, Babilardia, and Idelfonza, the three Princesses; Misses Julia St. George, Ternan, and Marston; Moothier Goose, Miss Stephens. Commence at Half-past Seven.

**THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.**—The Twenty-second Annual Exhibition is now open at their Gallery, 53, Pall-mall, near St. James's Palace, daily, from Nine till Dusk. Admission 1s., Season Tickets, 5s. each.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT and PILLS, NEVER FAILING REMEDIES FOR BAD LEGS.** Extract of a letter from Mr. William Mabson, druggist, of Great Yarmouth. "To Professor Holloway.—Sir, Samuel Wells, mariner, had a very bad leg for nearly three years; he obtained the advice of several medical men and tried various remedies, but instead of deriving benefit therefrom, his leg continued to get worse, which prevented him following his employment; he was then induced to try Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which have been the means of effecting a perfect cure."

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 50, Maiden-lane, New York; by A. Stampa, Constantinople; A. Guidicly, Smyrna; and E. Muir, Malta.

**SISAL CIGARS, SISAL CIGARS, at GOODRICH'S Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores (established 1789), 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square.—Box, containing 14 fine Sisal Cigars, for 1s. 9d.; post free, six stamps extra; lb. boxes, containing 100, 12s. 6d. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich." A large stock of the most approved Brands.**

## THE BEST AND CHEAPEST TEAS.

**I**N ENGLAND are to be obtained of PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON.

**Strong Congou Teas, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., 3s., 3s. 2d.**

A general Price Current is published every month, containing all the advantages of the London markets, and is sent free by post on application.

**SUGARS ARE SUPPLIED AT MARKET PRICES.** TEAS and COFFEES to the value of 40s. or upwards sent carriage free to any railway station or market town in England.

**SCHWEPPÉ'S MALVERN SELTZER WATER.** Having leased the Holy Well Spring at Malvern, renowned for its purity, J. S. and Co. can now produce a SELTZER WATER with all the CHEMICAL and MEDICAL properties which have rendered the Nassau Spring so celebrated. They continue Manufacturing SODA, MAGNESIA, and POTASS WATERS and LEMONADE, at LONDON, LIVERPOOL, BRISTOL, and DERBY.

Every bottle is protected by a Red Label bearing their signature.

DR. DE JONGH'S

## LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

Prescribed with complete confidence and the greatest success by the Faculty for its purity, speedy and uniform efficacy, entire freedom from nauseous flavour, and marked superiority over every other variety, in the treatment of CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

## EXTRACTS FROM SELECT MEDICAL OPINIONS:—

HENRY LETHEBY, Esq., M.B.,

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"The Oil corresponds in all its characters with that named 'Huile Brune,' and described as the best variety in the masterly treatise of Dr. De Jongh. From my investigations, I have no doubt of its being a pure and unadulterated article."

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Chief Analyst of the Sanitary Commission of the *Lancet*, &c., &c.

"So great is my confidence in the article, that I usually prescribe it in preference to any other, in order to make sure of obtaining the remedy in its purest and best condition."

Sold by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., 77, Strand, London, Dr. de Jongh's sole British Consignee, and by many respectable Chemists throughout the United Kingdom.

Half-pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 5s. 6d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 9s. IMPERIAL MEASURE.

CaUTION.—Each bottle is sealed with a stamped metallic capsule, and bears beneath the pink outside wrapper a label with Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature. ALL OILS OFFERED AS DR. DE JONGH'S, OR AS OF THE SAME KIND, WITHOUT SUCH MARKS, ARE FRAUDULENT IMPOSITIONS.

## CURES OF ASTHMA, COUGHS, &amp;c., by DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.

From Mr. Oldham, Chemist, Market-place, W�bshire.—

"From the great quantity of your wafers I have sold, I have had an excellent opportunity of witnessing their effects, and I have much pleasure in being able to inform you that several obstinate cases of asthma and coughs have been completely cured by their use; and, indeed, their efficacy is general in diseases of the lungs."

To SINGERS and PUBLIC SPEAKERS they are invaluable for clearing and strengthening the voice.

THEY HAVE A PLEASANT TASTE. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 3s. per box. Sold by all druggists.

In the High Court of Chancery.

## TRIESEMAR.—On the 29th of May, 1855,

an Injunction was granted by the High Court of Chancery, and on the 11th of June following was made permanent, against Joseph Franklin and others, to restrain them, under a penalty of £10,000, from imitating this medicine, which is protected by Royal Letters Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. TRIESEMAR, No. 1, is a remedy for Relaxation, Spermatorrhœa, and all the distressing consequences arising from early abuse, &c., and its effects are efficacious in youth, manhood, and old age; and to those persons who are prevented entering the medical state from the results of early errors it is invaluable. TRIESEMAR, No. 2, effectively, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which caput and cubitus have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. TRIESEMAR, No. 3, is the great Continental remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. TRIESEMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may lay on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—TRIESEMAR, Nos. 1, 2, 3, are sold in tin cases, price 1s., or four cases in one for 3s., which saves 1s.; and in 5s. cases, whereby there is a saving of 1s. 12s.; divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpenu, Lallemand, Roux, &c. To be had wholesale and retail in London, of Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Hanway and Co., 63, Oxford-street; and Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; R. H. Ingham, druggist, 46, Market-street, Manchester; H. Bradbury, bookseller, Deansgate, Bolton; J. Priestly, chemist, 52, Lord-street, Liverpool; Powell, bookseller, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin; Winnall, bookseller, High-street, Birmingham.

## TO PERSONS VISITING LONDON.

**C.** POPPLE'S Private Hotel, 29, Arundel Street, Strand, combines every comfort with moderate charges.—Omnibuses for all parts pass the end of the street every five minutes. Private sitting rooms for Families.—Bed and Breakfast, 3s. 6d. per day.

**ELASTIC SUPPORTING BELTS,** of the same beautiful Fabric as POPE and PLANTE'S ELASTIC STOCKINGS for Varicose Veins for Ladies' use, before and after accouchement, are admirably adapted for giving adequate support, with extreme lightness—a point little attended to in the comparatively clumsy contrivances and fabrics hitherto employed.

Instruction for measurement and prices on application, and the articles sent by post from the manufacturers, POPE and PLANTE, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, London.

**LE MIROIR FACE ET NUQUE.**—This new Patent Toilet Glass reflects the back of the head as perfectly as it does the face, and both in one glass at the same time, enabling a lady to arrange her back hair with the greatest ease and precision; it is the most unique and complete article ever introduced into the dressing-room. Price 2s. and upwards. To be seen only at the Patentees, Messrs. HEAL & SON, whose warerooms also contain every variety of Toilet Glass that is manufactured, as well as a general assortment of BEDSTEADS, BEDDING, and BEDROOM FURNITURE.

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**BUY of the MAKERS.—BRUSHES, COMBS, and BROOMS** of every description, whether for the dressing-table, household, or stable use, thirty per cent. lower than any other house in the trade, at the Manufacturers, J. and J. WITHERS, 36, Tottenham-court-road (opposite Bedford-street, Bedford-square).—Warranted tooth brushes, 3d.; superior ditto, 4d.; the best that can be made, ed. each.—N. B. The lowest price asked, and no shaming.

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The PELLISSIER OVERCOAT, 21s. and 22s., adapted for the season: the TWO GUINEA DRESS or FROCK COATS; the GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS; and the HALF-GUINEA WAISTCOAT.

N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

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**ALEX. ROSS'S DEPILATORY,** for removing effectually superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, and hands, without the slightest injury to the skin. It will not irritate the flesh in the mildest degree, and the hair to be entirely destroyed.—Sold in bottles, at 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.; or applied at the Hair Dyeing Establishment as above. Forwarded for stamps; free by post, eight extra.

**DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM,** 4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gentlemen only) from Ten till Ten, containing upwards of one thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part of the human frame in health and disease, the race of men, &c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, Four, and at Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton, F.R.G.S.; and a new and highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Half-past Eight every evening.—Admission 1s.

**FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.**—The manifold advantages to the heads of families from the possession of a medicine of known efficacy, that may be resorted to with confidence, and used with success in cases of temporary sickness, occurring in families more or less every day, are so obvious to all, that no question can be raised of its importance to every housekeeper in the kingdom.

For females, these Pills are truly excellent, removing all obstructions, the distressing headache so prevalent with the sex, depression of spirits, dulness of sight, nervous affections, blotches, pimples, and sallowness of the skin, and produce a healthy complexion.

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**BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS.** This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind, for during the first twenty years of the present century, to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance—but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonial from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

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Thousands have been restored to perfect hearing, and for ever rescued from the snare of the numerous advertising, dangerous, unqualified pretenders of the present day. It contains lists of startling cures, published by Dr. F. R. HOGHTON, Member of the London Royal College of Surgeons, May 2, 1845; L.A.C. April 30, 1846; Consulting Surgeon to the Institution for the Cure of Deafness, 9, Suffolk-place, Pall-mall, London, where all letters are to be addressed. Personal consultations every day between 11 and 4 o'clock. Sufferers deaf 40 or 50 years have their hearing perfectly restored in half an hour, without a moment's inconvenience. Testimonials and certificates can be seen from all the leading members of the faculty and from patients cured.

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Children's cots, from 17s. to 100s.; portable bedsteads, 12s. 6d.; iron bedsteads with patent joints, from 12s. to 240s.; brass bedsteads, 67s. to 500s.; camp stools, 11s. 6d. each; chairs, 15s.; chair bedsteads, from 41s. 6d. to 100s.

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Fiddle Thread or Old Silver Brunswick, King's Pattern. Pattern. Pattern.

Table Spoons and Forks per dozen. 38s. 48s. 68s. Dessert ditto and ditto. 30s. 35s. 42s. Tea ditto. 18s. 24s. 30s.

Tea and Coffee Sets, Cruet, and Liqueur Frames, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c. at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

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Table Spoons and Forks Fiddle. Thread. King's. per dozen. 12s. 28s. 30s. Dessert ditto and ditto. 10s. 21s. 25s. Tea ditto. 5s. 11s. 12s.

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The alterations and additions to these extensive premises (already by far the largest in Europe), which occupied the whole of last year, are of such a character that the entire of EIGHT HOUSES is devoted to the display of the most magnificent stock of GENERAL HOUSE IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated Goods, Baths, Brushes and Turnery, Lamps and Gasoliers, Iron and Brass Bedsteads and Bedding), so arranged in Sixteen Large Show Rooms as to afford to parties furnishing facilities in the selection of goods that cannot be hoped for elsewhere.

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### ARE YOU ABOUT TO FURNISH?

If so, inspect this enormous Stock, containing the most recherche manufactures of Gillows and Dowbiggin, as well as plain substantial Cottage Furniture.

Buying for Cash you will save 20 per cent.

ONE HUNDRED SETS of DINING-ROOM FURNITURE, of superior style and workmanship. Telescopic Dining-tables, from 3 guineas to 30. Chairs, in Morocco, Hair-cloth, and Rose, from 12s. 6d. to 2 guineas.

An immense stock of Bedding, Blankets, Sheetings, Counterpanes, Carpets, and Family Drapery just received from the Manufacturers.

Furniture warehoused at a moderate charge for families leaving town, or going abroad.

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Date of Policy	March 18, 1845.	April 24, 1845.	Nov. 7, 1845.
Age at Entry	30	42	51
Annual Premium	£25 7 6	£35 16 8	£49 8 4
Sum Assured	1000 0 0	1000 0 0	1000 0 0
Bonus added	157 10 0	184 0 0	211 10 3

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The ANNUAL MEETING of the SOCIETY was held on the 20th February, JOHN SINCLAIR, Esq., City Clerk, in the chair. The Report from the Directors showed, that "the business of the past year has considerably exceeded that of the previous year—a result which, considering the continued pressure on the industrial resources of the country, the Directors could not have ventured to anticipate." The new Proposals were 626, assuring 281,418, and the corresponding Premiums 9,408/- 17s. 10d. The total premiums received in the year amounted to 78,676/- 4s. 6d. The Claims in the year, by 63 deaths, were 43,139/- 3s. The Report concluded as follows:—"The Directors have adhered to the same careful system of administration as in former years, notwithstanding the excessive competition which prevails. They have refused to recognise the practice of giving commissions to induce a preference in bringing business to them; and in the extension of the Society by means of Agencies, they have kept steadily in view the importance of its being represented—whether in the case of Agents or Medical Advisers—by persons in whom they can place full reliance.

Full Reports of the Proceedings at the Meeting may be had at the Head Office in Edinburgh, or at the London Branch.

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The Court of Directors GRANT LETTERS of CREDIT and BILLS upon the Company's Bank, ADELAIDE, at par. Approved drafts negotiated and sent for collection.

Business with all the Australian Colonies conducted through the Bank's Agents.

Apply at the Company's Offices, 54, Old Broad-street, London. WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.

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MILNERS' PHENIX (212 degrees) SAFE WORKS, LIVERPOOL, the most complete and extensive in the world. Show-rooms, 6 and 8, Lord-street, Liverpool. London Depot, 47a, Moorgate-street, City. Circulars free by post.

Sold by HOBBS, ASHLEY, and CO., 97, Cheapside.

### RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-MAIN Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep.

A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer.

Mr. JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. Postage, 6d.

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### ESTABLISHED 1838.

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Life Assurances of every description effected.

Half the Annual Premium may be paid during the first five years.

One-third may remain on credit during the whole of life.

Endowment Assurances, payable at 50, 55, 60, &c.

Loans to Assurers on personal or other security.

50 per cent. of profits go to Assurers on the bonus scale.

The last bonus averaged 53 per cent. on the Premiums paid.

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